Guide to Archives Series 2

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REGIONAL ARCHIVES ERNAKULAM

State Archives Department
Government of Kerala

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Guide to Archives Series 2

Regional Archives Ernakulam

Editor
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Kerala State Archives Department
Government of Kerala
2006

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Guide to Archives Series 2
Regional Archives Ernakulam

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Preface

The records relating to the earstwhile princely State of Cochin are kept in the Regional Archives Ernakulam. The majority of the records are in paper, but there are also a good number of palm-leaf manuscripts. The palm-leaf manuscripts mainly deal with the land revenue administration of the state.

The Guide to the Regional Archives Ernakulam is prepared as a part of the Central Government project of Sources of Asian History. The Regional Archives Ernakulam has a very rare collection of Konkani, Persian, Portuguese and Jewish records.The bamboo-splint and the copper plate records are another major attraction of the records at Ernakulam. The Dewan's Diaries and D.O. Correspondence files are other important collection of records at the Regional Archives Ernakulam.

The laborious task of preparation and compilation of the Guide to Archives of Ernakulam was assigned to Sri.J.Rejikumar, Assistant Director. Though the compilation of the work was completed on time, the decision of publication was not taken up. However, the reconstituted Advisory Board has recommended the publication of the Guide to Archives in the year 2005.

I take this opportunity to place on record my sincere gratitude to Sri. A.P.Anil Kumar, Hon. Minister for Cultural Affairs for the initiative taken by him in the publication of this volume. I express my gratitude to Sri. E.K.Bharat Bhushan IAS, Principal Secretary (Cultural Affairs), Sri. G. Mohanakumaran Nair, Additional Secretary (Culture) and members of the State

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A word of gratitude to Mr.Tomin. J. Thachankary IPS, Managing Director KBPS and his committed team for the perfect printing of the volume. I also acknowledge the support of the staff of the department in the publication of this volume.

S.Raimon
Director(Archives)

Thiruvananthapuram
10-3-2006

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INTRODUCTION

The Kerala State Archives emerged as a separate department independent of the Secretariat, in the year 1964. The department which has its Directorate in Thiruvananthapuram has three Regional offices one each at Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode. The Archives Department is now under the administrative control of the Cultural Affairs Department of the State Government.

Most of the earlier records of the princely states of Travancore and Cochin are either in *Cadjan* or Palm-leaf and mainly relate to the land revenue adminstration. The records of Malabar are mostly in paper. All records in the repositories of the State Archives are open for consultation by bonafide Research Scholars.

NATURE OF RECORDS

About a century ago when paper was rare, processed palm- leaf was the chief material for writing. For the sake of convenience and better preservation it was the practice in earlier days to keep loose sheets of palm-leaves scrolled in bundles of convenient sizes after passing a cord through the holes provided in the leaves as in the case of present day tagging of paper. These scrolls are known as *churunas*. Here we have 2164 churunas. These records are written in Vattezhuthu, Malayalam and Tamil.

The guide to the records of the State Archives has been prepared as a part of the Centrally Financed Project - 'Guide to the Sources of Asian History.'It covers records of the Princely States of Travancore, Cochin and that of the Malabar District of Madras Presidency. In the case of certain series of records, it is difficult to trace the origin of the department. . Efforts have however been made to describe each series of records along with some significant documents of the series. A list of the records of each series as well as glossaries of local terms have been included for the use of readers. The major portion of records are dated in Malayalam Era (ME) and *Puthuvaipu* Era. Therefore a brief

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description of these Eras is appended. The scripts used in the *cadjan* records are Vattezhuthu, Tamil and Malayalam.

GUIDE TO RECORDS

The present volume is intended to bring out information regarding the record holdings in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam.The major portion of records in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam belong to the Revenue Department. They are both in *cadjan* and paper and the important collection of records are the following: -

I. Departmental Records

1. Revenue Department
2. Treasury Department
3. Excise Department
4. Police Department
5. Judicial Department
6. Medical and Sanitary Department
7. Education Department
8. Public Works Department
9. Forest and Tramway Department.

II Historical Records

1. Series File (1694-1869)
2. Hukkumnahas or Proclamations (1812-1949 A.D)
3. Dewan's English & Malayalam Diaries (1818-1896) A.D)
4. Thachudaya Kaimal Sthanam (Boundary Disputes)
5. Deeds (1908-1947 A.D) & Agreements (1897-1942 A.D)
6. D.O. Correspondence (1892 onwards)
7. Huzur Secretariat Files (1935-1949 A.D)
8. Record relating to Jews (1525)
9. Konkani records (168-1850)

III Cadjan Records (1525-1828 A.D):- The collection 'grandhas' may be grouped into two, viz.,

1. Ozhuku Grandhas and
2. Historical Grandhas.

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IV Rare Records

1. Portuguese, Persian etc.
2. Copper plate, Bamboo splints and other Miscellaneous records

V Private Records

1. Paliam family records
2. I.N.. Menon collections

VI Appendix and Glossary

THE SYSTEM OF RECORD KEEPING

Kerala had achieved a unique position in record-keeping by establishing Repositories to preserve records from very early times. The records of Travancore are housed at the central repository in Thiruvananthapuram and those of Cochin and Malabar at Ernakulam and Chennai respectively.

In the Regional Archives, Ernakulam we have mainly records of various categories such as *Grandha, Churuna, Ozhuku,* copper plate, bamboo splint etc. Under the *Cadjan* collection, *Grandha* is the collection of palm leaf manuscripts preserved within wooden flaps whereas *churunas are* preserved in scrolls of palm leaf manuscripts. The *ozhuku* records give an account of the boundaries of landed properties fixed after survey. Among them the collection relating to land settlement is the bulkiest.

Copper plate, bamboo splints, Persian, Portuguese and Dutch records are some of the interesting documents kept in the Regional Archives Ernakulam.

Grandhavaries are also important as they contain information on cultural activities, political and social aspects; Chittur Swaroopam Grandhavari and Perumpadappu Swaroopam grandhavari etc. are some of the most interesting records among them.

Considering the importance of such old records and their enduring value, decision was taken to overhaul the establishment on modern lines and it resulted in the creation of the Central Records office in the year 1909.

The date of the earliest record kept in this centre goes back to as early as 1525 A.D and is a Devaswom record. There is an appreciably large collection of loose cadjan leaves each forming a single complete document in several cases. Copies of title deeds executed by private parties in the different *Proverthies* of the State constitute the bulk of the collection. Besides this, the

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collection also consists of a good number of *Teetturams* on various matters of interest.

The paper records in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam are written in Malayalam, English, Persian, Sanskrit etc. In addition to these, we have records in Portuguese, Urdu, Marathi, Gujarathi and Canarese languages. The subjects covered by them relate to various aspects and contain treaties, proclamations, deeds and agreements, and royal orders. The most important item among the paper records in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam is the collection termed "***Series Files.***" It deals with matters of political and administrative history pertaining to the Dutch and the Early British period. These records also consist of correspondence that passed between successive rulers of Cochin and the foreign powers .

Apart from this, there are records in copper and bamboo splints. They are written in *Vattezhuthu*, *Kolezhuthu*, Sanskrit etc and covered the period from 1625-1690 AD. The most important item of copper plate records is a treaty between the Raja of Cochin and the Dutch East India company in 1663 in *Vattezhuthu* character. The bamboo splint collection mostly contains specimens of certain private documents such as lease deeds and mortgage deeds.

The formulation of rules and regulations for the preservation of records has also an interesting history. Among the erstwhile princely states, Kochi enjoyed an enviable position not only in administration but also in the upkeep of records relating to the day to day activities of the state. Till the year 1896, all the ancient and non-current records were housed in the *Huzur Cutcherry* in Ernakulam, the capital of the State. In that year all important state records were transferred to Tripunithura, the seat of the Maharajas and kept at a place called *Iduvayppu* where the other state valuables were preserved. These records, under the charge of a low-paid official were not maintained properly. It was in the year 1898 that a systematic classification and arrangement of the records was first attempted and it was only in 1905 that all the records of historical and administrative importance were got copied and printed.

During the Dewanship of Sir. R.K. Shanmukham Chetty (1935-40) a separate three-storeyed concrete building was constructed for housing the central records. Rules were also incorporated to give due emphasis on the preservation of documents. Even at the time of the formation of the various Departments under the secretariat there existed a record section under the supervision of record keepers. In order to house the records; a new building was constructed north

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of the Public Offices (Secretariat) in 1895 which later came to be called the Gazette Department. It was in this background that the archival set-up and the system of record- keeping in Kerala got its identity.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE ERSTWHILE STATE OF COCHIN

It was in the year 1818 A.D that the post of the Dewan was created in Cochin. Prior to this, the administrative head of the State was "***Valiya Sarvadhikaryakar***", who was appointed by H.H the Maharaja of Cochin. For the purpose of Revenue administration, the state was divided into two divisions. The *Vadakke Mukhom* or the Northern Division, and the *Thekke Mukhom* or the Southern Division. Each division was under the supervision of a *Sarvadhi Karyakar*. These divisions were further subdivided into ***Kovilakattum Vatukkals*** and each subdivision consisted of a number of *Proverthies*. A *Proverthy* was the smallest unit of administration and was placed under an officer called proverthykaran (now called Village Officer). The *Kovilakattum Vattukkals* each were placed under a *Karyakkar* (changed into Tahsildar).

Col.Munro, the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin was administering the State of Cochin in 987 M.E (1812 A.D). Even though the Dewanship as such was actually created only six years later in 993 M.E (1818 A.D) the *Valia Sarvadhikaryakkar's* designation was altered to Dewan and that of *Sarvadhikaryakkars* to *Peishkars*. The post of *Dewan Peishkar* was created in 1010 M.E (1835 A.D)

From the available records, we learn that the state continued to have two divisions as in the past, but each division was subdivided into three taluks for the purpose of revenue administration. There was a *Peishkar* in charge of each division who was also the District Magistrate. Each Taluk was under the control of Tahsildars who exercised second class magisterial powers. They also administered abkari, opium, ganja and tobacco revenues of the state, managed the affairs of a large number of religious and charitable institutions (*Devaswom* and *Utupuras*) and helped the Dewan in conducting the state administration. The Tahsildars were vested with large powers and they were also officers in charge of taluk treasuries.

As the head of the administration, the Dewan was also in charge of the Revenue and Accounts Department. He also exercised magisterial powers in respect of certain classes of offences. He was assisted by the Huzur Cutcherry consisting of various types of officers and staff. The highest tribunal in the State was H.H the Raja's Court of Appeal. Subsequently this was changed to

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the Chief Court and finally to the High Court. But the administration of justice, civil and criminal, was controlled by the Appeal court, which consisted of three judges. The Police and Military Departments were under a superintendent. There was a Conservator of Forests as the head of the Forest Department. He was however, under the control of the Chief Engineer of the state who was the ex-officio Comptroller of Forests. There were two departments under Public Works,viz, Public Works Department under the control of the Chief Engineer and the *Maramath* Department under the *Maramath Parisodhakan*. The Dewan as the head of the Education Department was assisted by an advisor or Secretary. There was a separate Medical and Sanitation Department. There was also the Registration and Anchal (Postal) Departments. The re-organisation of the Secretariat and the other departments, on modern lines was attempted in the year 1071 M.E i.e in 1895, AD

ARCHIVAL ORGANISATION IN THE STATE AND PRESENT SET UP OF THE RECORD REPOSITORIES.

The Regional Archives, Ernakulam is a miniature Archives by itself, as far as the erstwhile state of Cochin is concerned. It was in the year 1901 A.D (during the Dewanship of Sir P. Rajagopalachari) that a scheme was originally enunciated by the then Government of Cochin for the organisation of a separate office called the 'Central Records' for the preservation of its ancient valuable records of Archival value. But the institution 'Central Records' (now Regional Archives, Ernakulam) actually came into being only in 1909 as per G.O No. C2999 of 1084 dated 15th July 1909). The records preserved here can be broadly classified into two as stated below.

(i) The Cadjan Records .

(ii) Paper Records relating to the modern period.

All the records were housed in the Huzur Cutcherry (Office of the Dewan) itself. In the year1896 all important state records were transferred to Tripunithura the seat of the Maharaja.

It was in the year 1898 that the first attempt was made to classify the records as those of exceptional importance, ordinary importance and those of merely temporary use. The records of permanent value , which would be of immense enduring use for the state, were classified and listed by a special officer appointed for the purpose. Orders were soon passed by the Government on 29.6.1901 (during the Dewanship of Sir. P. Rajagopalachari) for the

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organisation of a Central Record Room for the whole State at Ernakulam and for the preservation of all State Records in this Record Room. It was under the direct control of the Dewan. Accordingly all records of the different Administrative Departments including the Appeal Court, were to be transferred to a central place (Central Records). After the retransfer of the entire records from *Iduvayppu* to the *Huzur Cutcherry* (Dewan's office), Ernakulam, the Huzur and Central Records continued to exist as one unit. Records in the Huzur Cutcherry up to the year 1072 (1897) consisted of both English and Malayalam Records. The majority of the Malayalam records in paper were merely a continuation of the old Cadjan records of the State, while the English Records consisted of correspondence among the Dewan, Resident and other British officers. In the year 1905 during the Dewanship of the late Sir A.R Banerji, the Central Records as it exists today was organised. Sir Banerji got copies of all the records of historical and administrative importance then available in the state for their perpetual preservation in the central Records.

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I. DEPARTMENTAL RECORDS
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND REVENUE

Traditional system under Jenmis

Tax of tenant-Kanam Tax

Properties under lease-Local Chiefs

and Land Lords

(Up to 1762)

Tax to land lords-Jenmi bhogam

Change in the entire administrative system

Land Revenue Settlement etc

(1762)

Thirumul kazcha-Royal Cess

Re organisation

(1814)

Revenue Survey

(1898 A.D)

(Cadastral Survey)

Second Settlement-Survey of all

Lands (1905 A.D)

Reforms to the Department

Final Settlement

Settlement Department (1902A.D)

Last Settlement

1905

Cochin Tenancy Act

1914

Revenue Department in present form.

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1. LAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT

The Department of Revenue was not in existence in Cochi during the early years. The duties of the Department were not identified at the time of its formation.

Land Tenure: - During the early days, landed property in the State was under the control of '*Bhandaram*' (State Exchequer) and *Jenmis* (land lords). The *Pandaravaka* lands (Sirkar lands) were those which in process of time became vested in the Government by conquest. The tenants under the Jenmis were borrowing money from him to meet extraordinary expenditure. That was called '*Kanam*' (tax). But if the tenant is not willing to pay the amount, the Janmi holds the property for a period of 12 years. At the end of the period it may be renewed by the tenant by paying a renewal fee to the land lord.

The land tenure system of Cochin had some significance For example the tenants living in the Sirkar lands fixed their tax as one half of the net produce. They are subject to full taxation with full assessment.

The '*Janmom lands*' are the absolute private property of the owner and have been generally tax-free. They belong to '*Devaswoms*'[1] or '*Brahmaswoms*'[2] and the Government do not hold any control over them. In addition there were *Puramboke*[3] lands which were entirely at the disposal of the Government.

A formative period: - The land revenue was levied for the first time in the Cochin territory in 1762. The local chiefs were deprived of the administrative and military powers and the administration was placed in the hands of the Officers appointed by the Raja.

As a result of these measures the modern tenurial system came into existence. As the income from the existing sources was not sufficient to provide funds for the maintenance of the new administrative establishments, a general land tax was levied in 1761-62 on a limited scale.

In 1814 the revenue survey was completed and a well-regulated policy was adopted by Col. Munro, by issuing a '*Hukkumnamah*' containing detailed instructions for the inspection and assessment of *Nilams* and *Parambas* through out the Cochin State in a systematic manner.

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1. Devaswoms land:- The landed property which belongs to the gods and goddesses, ie: temples.
2. Brahmaswoms lands:- The landed property which belongs to Brahmins.
3. Puramboke lands:- Lands which are not under the control of any particular individual or institution.

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Modern Trends:- At the beginning of the 19th century a new administrative system came into existence. Since then there had been frequent settlements of land revenue. All these settlements were "*kettezhuthus*" or records made out of what was heard and *kandezhuthu* (records of what was seen). At this time cultivable lands were registered after actual measurement.

The chief source of revenue at this time was "tree tax" and those without such trees were assessed *'Pea tax.' However a uniform rate of seven pies per para (10 cents) was charged. Coconut trees were assessed at a uniform rate and jack trees at one eighth. Moreover the entire state was divided into separate revenue divisions.

For the convenience of Revenue Settlement the whole state was divided into *Nadus* (districts) ruled over by *Naduvazhies.*

Organisational Changes

Pre-settlement period (1698-1722)

The basis of the modern system of land Revenue administration was laid down during the reign of King Rama Varma in 1698 A.D. At that time Cochin, for administrative convenience, was divided into *Districts* and *Nadus*. The smallest unit of administration was the *Proverthy*. While the King was the supreme head of the state the administrative head was the *Sarvadhikaryakkar.* He was the Chief Revenue Officer. In addition to them there was '*Kanakku Pillamars*' (accountants). The system continued till Paliath Achan became the Prime Minister of Cochin.

The First Revenue Settlement

The income from the then existing system was not sufficient to provide funds for the administrative establishments. In order to meet expenditure the first Revenue settlement was iniated in Cochin in 1762 A.D i.e. after the expulsion of the Zamorin from Cochin. The land was divided into *Nadus* (districts) and again into *Desoms* (Villages). The proprietary right of the lands comprising the *Nadus* were held by *Naduvazhies* while in Desoms *Desavazhies* and the administration in the villages or *Proverthies* were conducted by "*Proverthikars.*" This was followed by the land revenue settlement from 1774 to 1778. *Muppra, Michavaram, Kavalappanam* or protection fee, *Kettuthengu, Varam* etc. were the taxes levied during this period. The rates of the tax varied according to the nature of tenure, yield etc. of the land.

* Pea tax:- Tax assessed to a particular area of land in which there were no trees

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Constitution of Revenue establishment.

The period of Raja Rama Varma popularly known as Sakthan Thampuran (1790-1805) was marked by the attack of Tippu Sulthan. At that time Cochin was the ally of the English. Soon after the departure of Tippu from Cochin, the Raja showed allegiance to the British. Thus Cochin was placed under the Commissioners appointed by Madras, Bombay and Bengal Governments.

During the fifteen years of his reign the Raja controlled the whole administration of the state. In order to collect the revenue he appointed *Sarvadhikaryakars, Karyakars* and *Proverthikars.* Necessary accounts were also maintained during this time.

Re-Organisation of Revenue Establishment

A thorough re-organisation of the Revenue establishment was undertaken in Cochin during the time of Kerala Varma (1809-1828). The notable reform introduced during his reign was the levy of Rajabhogam or king's share from land holders. This Rajabhogam together with the Jenmi (land lord's share) of the lands constituted the land of the State.

Settlement of 1814 AD

The next settlement of Cochin took place during the time of Col.Munro in 1814. During this time the amount of tax was fixed after oral inquiries and personal conferences with landholders.

The settlements during this time were *Kandezhuthus* and *Kettezhuthus*. The former records were made out of what was heard and the latter from what was seen. For the purpose of assessment, lease and other transactions connected with land, its extent in earlier days was calculated with reference to the quantity of seed required for saving it. The para was the unit of quantity for all ordinary purposes.

All assessable lands were divided into two classes i.e., "*Nilams*" and '*Parambas.*' The former adopted for the cultivation of paddy and the latter for the cultivation of crops. All lands whether *Nilams* or *parambas* were again divided into *pandaravaka* and puravaka. Pandaravaka lands were directly under the control of Sirkar while *puravaka* lands were held by the tenants under the Jenmis. The examples of Puravaka lands were Verumpattom, Kanam, Otti, Panayam, Anubhogam etc. However Dewan Sankara Warrier abolished this system in 1848. The records namely *Ozhuku* and *Ayakettu* were prepared in connection with the above mentioned settlements.

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Reforms of Col.Munro

The appointment of Col.Munro as Dewan Resident of Travancore and Cochin in 1811 A.D marks the beginning of an eventful epoch in the land Revenue history of these states. He abolished the post of *Valiya Sarvadhikaryakkar* and the *Sarvadhi Kariakkar* and changed the designation of the *Karyakkar* to that of Tahsildar. The Tahsildars who held Revenue and Police administration till then were made pure Revenue Officers and their work was controlled from the headquarters of the Dewan with the help of a staff among whom the foremost were two Dewan Peishkars.

Another important reform introduced by Col. Munro was the introduction of a systematic revenue administration in the state by issuing the *Hukkumnamah.* The *parambas* containing taxable trees were assessed with a free tax and those without such trees were assessed with a pea tax. In case of lands held as *Anubhogam* a lumpsum was deducted from the tax.

LAND REVENUE SYSTEM from 1837 to 1857

The settlement of 1837 and 1857 marks an epoch-making event in the history of the revenue system in Cochin. During these settlements new plots of land, either occupied or unoccupied but cultivable, were also measured and registered. The rates of assessment did not undergo any change.

COCHIN SURVEY REGULATION (1898-99)

The idea of a scientific survey of land to be followed by a revision of assessment with reference to the actual extent of the lands and their productive capacity therefore engaged the attention of the Government. A survey Regulation was passed in 1898-99 and a series of rules were framed laying down the principles of procedure to be followed in demarcating fields. The cadastral Survey in Cochin was started in the same year. The survey was on the whole conducted in an excellent manner.

SETTLEMENT OF 1905

The reign of Rama Varma popularly known as Rajarshi of Cochin marks an epoch-making event in the Cochin land revenue system. During his reign a large number of reforms were introduced in this field. The most important among them was the Settlement Proclamation of 1905. After this the full State demand on *Pandaravaka Nilams* was fixed at half of the net produce. The state demand on *Puravaka* lands was fixed at half of the full or Pandaravaka rate in the case of *Nilams* and at one fourth in the case of *parambas*. The

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settlement was made with the Jenmis and not with their tenure holders. Another important reform introduced by him was the passing of Cochin Tenancy Act (1914-15) by which it granted fixity to those who held kanam lands before 1885.

Formation of Revenue Settlement Department

The three departments of Treasury, Revenue (including Excise, Agriculture and Fisheries) and Finance were collectively known as 'Jamabandi' and it was a part of the State establishment. However, by the middle of 1077 M.E (1902 January) the Revenue Settlement Department came into existence when, a small settlement was organised under the supervision of an experienced Revenue officer. The then Dewan Sri Pattabhi Rama Rao drafted a Proclamation formulating the principles on which the settlement should be conducted. The provision of the settlement including the classification of land and soil, fixing the assessment rates, the verification of tenures and occupancy particulars, the issue of rough and final pattas and the preparation of final registers. This proclamation contained provision for conducting detailed inquiries into and settling all claims to *inams* and assignments of Land Revenue and all cases of escheat. Thus, the preliminary work in connection with the next settlement was started during this period and ended in 1910 A.D.

Branches of Revenue Department

Before the formation of various departments the entire control of the Land Revenue System was with the Revenue Department. Sales tax, Agriculture and Excise were the main branches of the Revenue Department till 1905. In 1905 the Excise Department became separated from the Revenue Department. Treasury which formed a distinct branch of the Revenue Department was also made a separate consignment and the departments of Agriculture and Fisheries were formed. The officers of the Revenue Department were divested of control over agriculture and fisheries. In 1923 Devaswom Department was established and thereby the Revenue Department was relieved of the work connected with that sphere also.

At the close of the last settlement the state consisted of Seven Taluks and Proverthies or Villages. These territorial writs and systems of administration under- went changes in subsequent years and the Land Revenue Commissioner of the later days was made responsible for the administration of the entire Land Revenue System in Cochin.

The following categories of records are available under Land Revenue

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Department in the Regional Archives Ernakulam.

1. *Ozhukus*
2. Village Settlement
3. Survey Records
4. *Ayakkettu*
5. *Thirattu*
6. *Jamabandi* orders
7. *Rayasom*
8. Pativu Account
9. Stamped Cadjan Account
10. *Anamath* Account
11. Coffee Estate
12. Commercial Books
13. Bill Books

Record series and their finding Aids

Ozhukus (1821-1887 A.D)

Preparation of *Ozhuku* records is the preliminary work of the Revenue Department. It contains detailed information of landed properties. The information contained in the *Ozhuku* is given below.

01. Serial No. (This serial No. allotted to each property is based on the present day Survey No.)
02. Name and extent of property indicating details of the boundaries.
03. The number of trees and amount of tax on the property levied.
04. Name and address of the land holder.

The Ozhuku records are classified into three as follows: -

01. *Nilam Ozhuku*
02. *Parambu Ozhuku*
03. *Puthuval Ozhuku*

The *Nilam Ozhuku, Parambu Ozhuku* and *Puthuval Ozhuku* in the Regional Archives Ernakulam seem to have been prepared in connection with their settlements. However, the Nilam Ozhuku seem to have been prepared during 996-1098 M.E (1821-1903) the Paramba Ozhuku in 1032 M.E (1856) and the Puthuval prepared during (1032-1062 M.E) 1858-1887 AD.

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Ozhuku records are the most important records connected with settlement. Details regarding each Ozhuku is given below.

PARAMBA OZHUKUS

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Churunas
01	KANAYANNUR	945-1076 M.E 1773-1901 AD	147
02	COCHI	958-1065 M.E 1783-1890 AD	174
03	KODUNGALLUR	985-1079 M.E 1813-1904 AD	48
04	MUKUNDAPURAM	996-1080M.E1 821-1905 AD	213
05	TRICHUR	996-1079M.E 1821-1904 AD	178
06	THALAPPILLY	948-1080 M.E 1773-1905 AD	110
07	CHITTOOR	991-1080 M.E 1816-1905 AD	10[1]

NILAM OZHUKUS

The records contain information relating to wet lands (Paddy fields). The extent, boundaries, and other allied information in respect of each property are also indicated in these records. These records totally cover the period from 1798-1904. This collection consists of 258 churunas. The Nilam Ozhuku records of different Taluks in the Cochin State are given below

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Churunas
01	KANAYANNUR	958-1032 M.E1813-1857 AD	39
02	COCHI	973-1062M.E 1798-1887 AD	33
03	KODUNGALLUR	988-1079 M.E 1813-1904 AD	07
04	MUKUNDAPURAM	996-1062M.E 1821-1887AD	51
05	TRICHUR	996-1059M.E 1821-1884 AD	79
06	CHITTOOR	997-1079 M.E 1822-1904 AD	13
07	THALAPPILLY	996-1079 M.E 1821-1904AD	36

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PUTHUVAL OZHUKUS

Puthuval lands are waste and unoccupied lands and which were occupied after the Survey had been over. At that time these lands were brought under cultivation following which they were known as 'puthuval' and ozhuku records of puthuval lands are known as *puthuval ozhuku.*

There is a collection of 69 Churunas relating to the assignment of land pertaining to the period from 1856 to 1905 A.D. They are the following.

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Churunas
01	KANAYANNUR	1013-1080 ME 1868-1905 AD	06
02	COCHI	1039-1082 ME 1864-1907AD	16
03	KODUNGALLUR	1062-1075 ME 1887-1900 AD	-
04	MUKUNDAPURAM	1038-1080 ME 1863-1905 AD	13
05	TRICHUR	1031-1080 ME 1856-1905 AD	14
06	CHITTOOR	1027-1080 ME 1852-1905 AD	17
07	THALAPPILLY	1033-1071 ME 1858-1876 AD	13

AYAKETTU

The Revenue Department collected revenue from the people in a prompt and correct way. Firstly, they fixed the tax rate and the same was collected later. The collection of revenue was on instalment basis. The tax was to be remitted into the Royal treasury. The amount was fixed on the basis of previous year's revenue account. The collection was in the first quarter of every Malayalam Era.

The Ayakettu records cover the period from 1012-1062ME / 1837-1887AD and consist of 6 Churunas. They are permanent records from which we get the final result of the settlement.

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The following records are available under this head.

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Churunas
01	KANAYANNUR	1012 ME 1837 AD	01
02	COCHI	-	-
03	KODUNGALLUR	-	-
04	MUKUNDAPURAM	1059-1062 ME 1884-1887 AD	02
05	TRICHUR	999-1056 ME 1824-1881 AD	02
06	THALAPPILLY	1035 ME1860	01
07	CHITTOOR	-	-

THIRATTU

The Thirattus deal with the income and expenditure pertaining to various Taluks. Taluk-wise and Proverthy-wise (Village). Details of financial condition of the State can be ascertained from these records. Details of income from all sources and expenditure for various items are mentioned in these Tirattus. These records include paper and Cadjan (*churunas*). This collection consists of 114 churunas covering the period from 1777-1892 and 1893-1908 A.D). They are classified into three namely:-

1. Taluk Tirattus

2. Proverthy Tirattus

3. Kettuvaravu Tirattus

Taluk Tirattu consists of 47 books extended in the seven villages in the Cochin State and it covers the period from 1066-1082 M.E (1891-1907 A.D) The Proverthy Tirattukal are in 291 numbers and cover the period from 1068-1083 M.E) (1893-1908 A.D.) Proverthy Tirattukal are village wise and the Kettuvaravu Tiratukal cover the period from 1050-1071 M.E(1875-1896 A.D) and it consists of 10 records.

The following records are available in this collection.

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THIRATTU

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of churunas
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Kanayannur	1004-1067 M.E 1829-1892 A.D.	11
02	Cochin	952-1015 M.E 1777-1840 A.D.	18
03	Kodungallur	976 M.E 1803 A.D.	8
04	Mukundapuram	986-1065 M.E 1811-1890 A.D.	15
05	Trichur	976-1064 M.E 1801-1889 A.D.	34
06	Thalappilly	986-1064 M.E 1811-1889 A.D.	12
07	Chittoor	992-1056 M.E 1817-1881 A.D.	16

TALUK TIRATTU

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of churunas
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Cochi	1066-1080 M.E 1891-1905 A.D.	6
02	Kanayannur	1066-1082 M.E 1891-1905 A.D.	6
03	Mukundapuram	1067-1081 M.E 1892-1906 A.D.	7
04	Trichur	1067-1081 M.E 1892-1906 A.D.	7
05	Thalappilly	1066-1083 M.E 1891-1908 A.D.	9
06	Chittoor	1066-1082 M.E 1891-1907 A.D.	8
07	Kodungallur	1066-1080 M.E 1891-1905 A.D.	6

PROVERTHY THIRATTUKAL

These records deal with the income and expenditure pertaining to various Proverthies. Proverthy-wise debits of the financial condition of the state can be ascertained from these records. The collection covering the period from. 1068-1083, and the following records are available.

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Sl.No.	Proverthies	Periods	No. of Items
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Cochi	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	10
02	Cheriyanadapuram	1071-1080 M.E 1896-1905 A.D.	11
03	Vaipin	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	10
04	Mulavakadu	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	10
05	Pallippuram	1071-1080 M.E 1896-1905 A.D.	11
06	Ernakulam	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	4
07	Nettur	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	3
08	Neendakara	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	4
09	Kanayannur	1078-1080 M.E 1903-1905 A.D.	3
10	Vellarapilly	1068-1080 M.E 1893-1905 A.D.	4
11	Mukundapuram	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	6
12	Palam	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906A.D.	5
13	Areepalam	1068-1081M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
14	Puthukkad	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
15	Mapranam	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
16	Koratti	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
17	Kodasseri	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
18	Thazhekkad	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
19	Kuzhur	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5

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20	Pathinetaralam	1068-1081 M.E 1893-1906 A.D.	5
21	Trichur	1068-1083 M.E 1893-1908 A.D.	7
22	Chittilappally	"	8
23	Oorakam	"	7
24	Peringottukra	"	7
25	Arimpoor	"	7
26	Enamavu	"	7
27	Vijapuram	"	7
28	Kuttanelloor	"	7
29	Paravattani	"	7
30	Machad	"	7
31	Pazhannur	"	7
32	Cheruthuruthi	"	8
33	Chelakkara	"	7
34	Chengazhikadu	"	7
35	Alyal	"	7
36	Choondal	"	7
37	Kunnamkulam	"	7
38	Porkulam	"	7
39	Mundathikode	"	7
40	Chittoor	1068-1082 M.E 1893-1907 A.D.	6
41	Thathamanagalam	"	6
42	Nellapilly	"	6
43	Nemmara	"	6
44	Thenmalapuram	"	6

KETTUVARAVU TIRATTUKAL

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Items
01	Cochin	1059-1069 M.E 1875-1894 A.D.	4
02	Mukundapuram	1066-1068 M.E 1891-1893 A.D.	3
03	Thalappilly	1068-1071 M.E 1893-1896 A.D.	2
04	Chittoor	1071 M.E 1896 A.D.	1

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THEETTURAMS

Orders or communications issued by the rulers of Cochin on different administrative matters especially revenue matters are known as 'Teetturams.' Descriptions on Theetturams can be seen in both churunas and paper records and cover the period from 952 to 1077 M.E (1077 to 1902 A.D). There are 14 Churunas and 290 paper records in this series. The records in this group are the following.

THEETTURAMS

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Items
01	KANAYANNUR	996 M.E 1821 A.D.	7
02	COCHI	952-1015 M.E 1777-1840 A.D.	2
03	KODUNGALLUR		
04	MUKUNDAPURAM	956-1065 M.E 1811-1890 A.D.	
05	TRICHUR	1064 M.E 1889 A.D.	2
06	THALAPPILLY		
07	CHITTOOR	992 M.E 1817 A.D.	3

BILL BOOKS

Bill books mainly deal with the finance and account matters of different Taluks. Bill books available in the Regional Archives Ernakulam cover the period from 1033-1072 ME (1858-1897 A.D.) The following items of Records are available in this series.

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Items
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Bill book	1033-1040 M.E 1858-1865 A.D.	8
02	Huzur Bill Book	1033-1072 M.E 1858-1897 A.D.	9
03	Cochin Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	8

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04	Kanayannur Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	9
05	Mukundapuram Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	8
06	Trichur Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	8
07	Thalappilly Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	7
08	Chittoor Bill Book	1040-1072 M.E 1865-1897 A.D.	8
09	Nithya Chelavu Bill Book (daily expenditure)	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	8
10	Military Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	6
11	Malavaka Bill Book	1041-1072 M.E 1866-1897 A.D.	7
12	Toram Pandikasala bill	1041-1064 M.E 1866-1889 A.D.	2
13	Pativu Account	1025-1046 M.E 1870-1871 A.D.	2

MARKET RATES

The major portions of this group contain current market rates of the different Taluks in the Cochin State i.e. Cochi, Tripunithura, Trichur etc. The following records are available in the series.

Sl.No.	Taluk	Periods	No. of Items
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	COCHIN	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	13
02	KANAYANNUR	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	9
03	MUKUNDAPURAM	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	13
04	TRICHUR	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	13
05	THALAPPILLY	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	15
06	CHITTOOR	1060-1070 M.E 1885-1895 A.D.	10
07	KODUNGALLUR	1060-1072 M.E 1885-1897 A.D.	13
08	Market rates for other Taluks	1074-1077 M.E 1899-1902 A.D.	47

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COFFEE ESTATES

Coffee Estate records include statements of accounts, correspondence, deeds etc. Coffee Estate was one of the main sources of income at that time. 8 volumes of records are availble in this series (1860-1891 A.D). They are as follows

Sl.No.	Subject	Year	Volumes
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Coffee Estate	1869A.D 1035.ME .	1
02	"	1863A.D 1038.ME .	1
03	"	1874A.D 1049.ME .	1
04	"	1874-1878A.D 1049-1053.ME .	1
05	"	1881-1892A.D 1056-1067.ME .	1
06	"	1888.A.D 1063.ME .	1
07	"	1890A.D 1065.ME .	1
08	"	1890-1891A.D 1065-1066.ME .	1

JAMABANDI ORDERS

Jamabandi orders deal with various matters relating to Revenue. It includes orders of Court, Huzur, Treasury, Kovilakam Sarvadhikaryakar, Pandikasala etc. These records are in paper and cover the period from 1033 to1072 M.E (1856-1897 A.D). The following records are available.

Sl.No.	subject	Year	No. of records
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	Cochin Division	1031-1072M.E 1856-1897 A.D.	36
02	Trichur Division	1031-1072 M.E 1856-1897 A.D	27
03	Commercial Orders	"	9
04	Miscellaneous Jamabandi Orders	"	37
05	Court Orders And Petitions	"	6
06	Huzur & Treasury Orders	"	33
07	Kovilakam orders, Sarvadhikariakar and Pandikasala orders	"	42
08	Kanayannur Division	"	26

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RAYASOM

Dewan as the controlling authority of various departments, has issued orders from time to time to the heads of the departments on various administrative matters. These orders and replies thereto on various administrative matters are included in these volumes. It covers the period from 1027 to1072 M.E (1852-1897 A.D) The following subjects can be seen under this head.

01. Rayasom copies of petitions to the Madras Company.
02. Copies of orders
03. Rayasom yadest
04. Rayasom Miscellaneous
05. Rayasom records of Kovilakam
06. Devaswom Peishkar
07. Rayasom special to other countries
08. Rayasom for Cochi and Kanayannur
09. Rayasom for Trichur and Mukundapuram
10. Seristadar and Rahaduar
11. Rayasom for Thalappilly, Chittoor and Kodungallur
12. Rayasom Dewan Peishkar
13. Rayasom Deputy Peishkars
14. Rayasom all Tahsildars
15. Rayasom Despatch.
16. Registration book for rayasom employees.
17. Rayasom draft book
18. Rayasom file book.

MARAMATH ACCOUNTS

Maramath means Public works. In the earlier days it was a part of the Revenue Department. Maramath accounts are mainly classified into Maramath and Eradavu. These records are in paper and of different Taluks. The following items are available in this series.

1. Maramath Accounts Eradavu	1044-1075 M.E 1869-1900 A.D
2. Orders to All Departments	1050-1063M.E 1868-1888 A.D
3.Orders to Conservatory	1043-1065M.E 1868-1890 A.D

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MARAMATH ACCOUNT

Sl.No.	subject	Year	No. of records
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
01	COCHI	1044-1073M.E 1869-1898 A.D.	5
02	KANAYANNUR	10366-1074 M.E 1861-1899AD	5
03	MUKUNDAPURAM	1032-1074 M.E 1857-1899 A.D	3
04	TRICHUR	1037-1074 M.E 1862-1899 A.D	3
05	THALAPPILLY	1034-1072M.E 1859-1897 A.D	3
06	CHITTOOR	1035-1072 M.E 1860-1897A.D	2
07	FOR ALL TALUKS	1034-1075 M.E 1859-1900 A.D	10

STAMPED CADJAN VENDOR

The series contain accounts relating to the sale of stamped cadjan leaves, mainly used for the exchange of land and other properties like the stamp paper of modern times. There are 165 volumes available here. It covers the period from 1065-1075 M.E/1890-1900 A.D.

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT

The Commercial Department records contain the commercial transaction of the state. This department was connected with the Coffee and Tea Estates. Four volumes are available in the Regional Archives Ernakulam. These paper records contain correspondence, statements and accounts from 1840-1892 A.D.

1.	Commercial Book I Volume	1840-1845 A.D 1015-1020 M.E
2.	"	1879-1881 A.D 1054-1056 M.E
3.	"	1882-1886A.D 1057-1061M.E
1.4.	Return of Work stores I Volume	1892-AD 1067 M.E

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GROWTH OF TREASURY

Huzur Treasury Till 1073 M.E

(1898 AD)

Departmental Treasuries

(1908 A.D)

Taluk Sub Treasuries

Divisional Treasuries

Treasuries under Revenue Department

Finance Department

2. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Before the formation of a separate Treasury Department, the functions of the treasury of the State of Cochin were done by the Revenue Department. Like Travancore it was functioning in the Huzur Cutcherry as per the direction of the Dewan and was known as Huzur Treasury.

Till the year 1073 M.E a single system of accounts prevailed in the State, containing what is called a Day Book of receipts and expenditure. The account system of the state was completely remodelled in 1073 M.E by an officer specially appointed for the purpose under which there were an Account Branch of the Dewan's office, under the immediate control of a Huzur Treasury officer. He was in charge of the Head Treasury at Ernakulam and he supervised the Taluk or Sub-Treasuries of the State. There was also an Audit Branch working directly under the Dewan to check the accounts submitted by the Huzur Treasury officer. On the recommendation of the Test Auditor, Mr. E.S Henssman, certain important changes were introduced in the system in 1080 M.E. viz: abolition

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of the Huzur Treasury, Accounts branch and post of Huzur Treasury officer. The Taluk Sub-Treasuries were reorganised as independent District Treasuries under the control of a Chief Auditor, who was also ex-officio secretary to the Dewan in the Audit Branch. To ensure better and more effective financial control of public expenditure, a separate department was created in 1083 M.E under a controlling officer designated the comptroller of accounts.

With the constitution of a separate department in 1083 M.E another Test Audit was also conducted. Several useful suggestions were made by the Test Audit Officer for the improvement of the system of audit and accounts, which were approved and adopted by the Durbar. A system of what is called local Audit was also introduced, where the accounts maintained in certain officers spending large amounts for works and stocks were audited in the offices concerned. In 1083 Rules were issued for budgeting income and expenditure. The reforms consisted mainly of the abolition of departmental treasuries and the establishment of taluk sub treasuries and major treasuries under the direct control of the accounts and Audit Officer. Thus the treasury again became a distinct branch of the Revenue Department.

As in the case of Cochin, the treasury work was done by the Revenue Department in Travancore and Malabar also. Consequent on the formation of Kerala State the entire treasury work of the state was taken over by the Revenue Department of the State. This system existed till 1963 A.D and in the same year treasury work has been shifted from the Revenue Department and brought under Finance Department.

The treasury records kept in the Regional Archives Ernakulam are broadly classified into two; Cadjan and papers. These records mainly deal with the accounts of income and expenditure of the State treasury.

The churuna accounts cover the period from 1777 to 1900 and the following records are available.

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Sl.No.	Subject	Taluk	Year-
01	Theetturam Polichezhuthu Account	Cochin	952M.E 1777-AD
02	Pathivu deed Account		996-997M.E 1821-1822 A.D
03	Pattam Muthalkootu Account		1003M.E 1828-AD
04	Kuduthal Kurava Account		1036M.E 1861-AD
05	Thitturam Polichezhuthu Account	Cherinadpuram	988M.E 1813-AD
06	Theetturam Polichezhuthu Account		1054M.E 1879-AD
07	Palavaka Account	Kanayannur	1004M.E 1829-AD
08	Pirivu Chelavu	do	1020M.E 1845-AD
09	Polichezhuthu deed	Crangannur	1051-52M.E 1876-77-AD
10	Pathivil Kooduthal Kuravu Account		1058M.E 1883-AD
11	Polichezhuthu Account		1072-74 M.E 1897-99AD
12	Michavaram Account		1032-72M.E 1857-97-AD
13	Nilanikuthu Account	Mukundapuram	1035M.E 1860-AD
14	Theetturam polichezhuthu Account		1015M.E 1840-AD
15	Panavaka Chilavu Account		1038M.E 1863-AD
16	Panavaka Muthalkootu Account		1065M.E 1890-AD
17	Kooduthal kuravu Account	Areepalam	1064-65M.E 1880-1890-AD
18	Pathivu kanaku Account	Thazhekad	997M.E 1822-AD
19	Thirattu panavaka Account	Puthukad	1035M.E 18607-AD
20	Nelluvaka Account	Koratty	1060M.E 1885-AD

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21	Panavaka Chilavu Account	Kodassery	1054-55M.E 1879-1880AD
22	Theetturam polichezhuthu Account	Thrissur	985-998M.E 1810-1823-AD
23	panavaka Account	Thrissur	1050M.E 1875-AD
24	Nilamvaka Account	Peringottukara	1060M.E 1885-AD
25	Nettuvaka Account	Enamaykal	972M.E 1797-AD
26	Panavaka Account		987M.E 1812-AD
27	Kooduthal Kuravu Account	Arimpoor	999-1066M.E 1824-1891-AD
28	Panavaka Muthal Koottu Account	Vijayapuram	988-89M.E 1813-1814-AD
29	Panavaka Account	Vijayapuram	990-1067M.E 1824-1892-AD
30	Panavaka Account	Kuttanellur	1066M.E 1891-AD
31	Panavaka Account	Kunnamkulam	987-1064M.E 1812-1889AD
32	Polichezhuthu deed Account		996M.E 1821-AD
33	Panavaka Account	Chelakkara	1064M.E 1889-AD
34	Nelluvaka Account	Chengazhikode	973M.E 1898-AD
35	Nelluvaka Account	Pazhayannur	986M.E 1811-AD
36	Polichezhuthu Account	Chitoor	1000-58M.E 1825-1883-AD
37	Kuduthal Kuravu Account		1000-58M.E 1825-1883AD
38	Theetturam Polichezhuthu Account	Chittur	1015M.E 1840-AD
39	Nelluvaka Account		1058 M.E 1883-AD
40	Panapurra Account	Thenmalappuram	1000-58M.E 1825-1883-AD

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PAPER RECORDS

Most of the records included in this collection are records of the departmental treasuries and taluk sub treasuries. They include receipts and disbursements in respect of the various departments in the state. The important items in this series are stamped Cadjan Accounts of different taluks, Cash Chitta, Huzur treasury daily report, Pathivu accounts, Anamath accounts, Maramath Accounts and Jamakarch Accounts

The Records available under this head are the following:

Sl.No.	Subject	Year	No of volumes
01	Treasury Accounts	1072-1073 M.E 1897-1898 AD	43
a	Ernakulam Taluk Treasury Accounts	1072-1073 M.E 1897-1898 AD	7
b	Cochin Taluk	1072 M.E 1897 AD	6
c	Kanayannur Taluk	1072 M.E 1897 AD	7
d	Mukundapuram Taluk	1072 M.E 1897 AD	7
e	Thalappilly	1072 M.E 1897 AD	9
f	Chittoor Taluk Treasury Accounts	1072 M.E 1897 AD	7
2	Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	149
a	Cochin Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	20
b	Kanayannur Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	20
c	Kodungallur stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	18
d	Mukundapuram Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	19

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e	Thrissur Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	20
f	Thalappilly Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	19
g	Chittoor Stamped Cadjan Accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	19
h	Nenmara Stamped cadjan accounts	1046-1065 M.E 1871-1890 AD	10
3	Cash chitta Huzur	1060-1073M.E 1885-1898 AD	49
4	Huzur Treasury Daily Report	1047-1073M.E 1872-1898 AD	21
5	Pathivu Accounts	1047-1072M.E 1872-1897 AD	14
	Other Accounts As Follows		
1	Anamath Accounts	1060-1073M.E 1885-1898 AD	40
2	Maramath Eradav	1044-1075M.E 1869-1900 AD	31
3	Jamakarach Accounts	1011-1071M.E 1836-1896 AD	22

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3. EXCISE DEPARTMENT

The Excise Department was formed at the end of the year 1900 A.D. Prior to that, there was only a Salt Department, which looked after the suppression of Salt Crimes. For this purpose a temporary group consisting of zamindars, 9 petty officers and 65 men were engaged for 6 months every year. The inspection of Salt stations was conducted by the Superintendent.

In 1894 A.D the post of Superintendent was created for the administration of Salt Revenue. After this, the present activities of the department viz., Abkari, salt, opium, Tobacco, Marine and Customs were placed under their control.

When Mr. Rajagopalachari became Dewan, he introduced certain reforms in the Excise branch. In 1900, he transferred the Salt, Abkari and Customs Departments to the Durbar.

In 1903 A.D the question of re-organisation of the Excise Department was taken up for consideration. Accordingly a scheme was drawn up in which the office staff of the Excise Superintendent was strengthened and re-organised. These incidents took place during the Dewanship of Pattabhirama Rao.

The chief reform introduced by Mr. Banerji in the administration of Salt Revenue was the introduction of the Salt Regulation No. V of 1083 M.E ,through which the system of Abkari administration was completely changed. He also introduced Madras system of Abkari administration in the three Northern Taluks of Trichur. Thalappilly and Chittoor. Another reform introduced during his period was the abolition of the post of check weighing officer. The next change was the appointment of a permanent staff for marking of trees licences for drawing jaggery toddy.

For the purpose of administration the State was divided into 7 taluks viz., Kanayannur, Cochin, Crangannur, Mukundapuram, Trichur, Thalappilly and Chittoor. These Taluks were presided over by the inspectors and each Taluk was composed of a number of ranges. Each range was under the control of an Amindar. The Superintendent was also the Chief Port officer of the State and was assisted by the Deputy Superintendent.

The Department underwent a though revision in 1912 A.D. The number of

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inspectors was raised from 6 to 7 and one of the inspectors specially trained was placed in charge of the distillery newly opened. A third rate inspector was also appointed temporarily in charge of the newly opened distilleries. The organisational set up of the Excise Department underwent further changes in subsequent years.

The following records of the Excise Department are available.

1. Cochin Excise Manual - 1932
2. Administration Report of Excise Department - 1953-'54
3. Administration Report of Excise Department - 1954-'55
4. Administration Report of Excise Department - 1955-'56
5. File correspondence regarding The Cochin Abkari (Amendment) Regulation (Huzur Secretariat 1936)

Salt Department under Separate Superintendent

1894 AD

Salt Abkari and Customs Department transferred to Durbar (1900 A.D)

Re-organization of Excise Department

1903-AD

Strengthening of the office Staff

1904A.D

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Appointment of Check-weighing officer

1907A.D abolition of Check weighing officer

1908 A.D

Re-distribution of ranges under Amindar

1911 A.D

Re-organisation of Excise Department

1912 A.D

Appointment of a third grade Inspector

1914 A.D

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

Tanna Naik

(1912 A.D)

Tahsildars were made Police Officers

(1835)

Separate Police Department under Superintendent

(1883)

Separation of Police Department from Magistry

(1884)

Creation of Sub Inspector Posts

(1908)

Major Developments took place

1920 onwards

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4. POLICE DEPARTMENT

The history of the Police force in the Cochin State goes back to 1812. In that year a force of Tannadars was organised in each Taluk under a Tannah Naik by a Hukkumnamah.* They were to move about the countryside, prevent contraband trade and theft, arrest depredators and make searches with a view to securing contraband articles. They were also to act to keep the peace of the land. During the time of Rama Varma in 1835 this force was disbanded and a new scheme was introduced by which the Tahsildars were made Police officers according to the Regulations IV of 1835. To assist the Tahsildar in his police functions a kotwal with a posse of peons was appointed in each Taluk.

It was during the reign of Rama Varma(1864-1888 A.D) that considerable progress has been made in this field. He organised a separate Police Department called '*Puthiya Niyama*'. The police force was placed under the control of an officer designated "the superintendent of Police" and it consisted of Inspectors, Head constables and Constables. Each Taluk was under the control of the Inspector and station houses were under the Head constables.

Apart from the officers and men employed on actual executive work, there was also a small Reserve Section, which assumed the character of vacancy reserve.

SEPARATION OF POLICE FROM MAGISTRACY

Till 1883 the Police force was combined with that of Magistrates. In that year a separate Department was formed for the administration of police entirely free from magistracy. In the same year disciplined force of about 300 head constables and constables were also organised and placed under the control of Superintendents with 6 Inspectors to assist him, one for each Taluk.

During the period between 1907 and 1909 many developments took place in the Police Department. In 1908, the post of Sub-Inspectors was created and scales of pay of the Police Officers were improved. Several important stations were converted into out-posts . The major development in the Department took place after 1920.

* Hukkumnamah- Royal order.

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RECORD SERIES

The Regional Archives Ernakulam holds valuable records relating to the Police Department. They are bound volumes of paper records. Most of the records deal with the correspondence between the Superintendent of Police, Cochin and Dewan of Cochin in various administrative matters. They are together termed Police Books. The number and year of these books are the following.

No	Subject	Period
01	Police Book	1872-1883AD
	"	1884 AD
	"	1885 AD
	"	1886 AD
	"	1887-1888 AD
	"	1889 AD
	"	1890 AD
	"	1891 AD
	"	1892 AD
	"	1893 AD
	"	1894 AD

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GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUDICIARY

Ruler as the Head of the State Judicial and Executive Powers

Courts established

(1812)

Dewan becomes Head (1813)

Formation of Courts

(1813)

Hukkumnamah of 1816

Appeal Court and New Court (1818)

Regulation Introduced

(1835)

Code of Civil Procedure

(1864)

Reforms in the Department

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5. JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

The history of modern Judicial Administration in Cochin begins with the advent of the British. In ancient days there was no separate judiciary. Customs or '*Maryadas*' which were believed to be based more or less in the Dharma Sastras was the law recognised in the settlement of civil and criminal disputes.

Before the creation of various courts the King was the Supreme head of the State. He enjoyed legislative, executive and judicial powers. Moreover, he was the highest court of appeal in the State. Although the King was the supreme head, in administration, he was assisted by his ministers and deputies.

STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

The judicial system of Cochin State developed with the advent of the British. The stages of development are mentioned below.

1. FORMATION OF THE ZILLA COURTS

It was during the time of Col. Munro in 1812 that a Zilla court was established in Cochin and it was placed under the orders of the Dewan. He was the then head of the executive. These courts were to enquire into all Civil and Criminal cases. But in 1845, the Zilla court was abolished and its place was taken by the Principal Subadar Amins Court. During the reign of Rama Varma (1864-1888) the designation of the Principal Subadar Amins was changed into Subordinate Judge.

2. HUZUR COURT

In Cochin area, the establishment of courts ,presided over by regularly paid judges was one of the reforms introduced by Col. Munro. The Hukkumnamah of 1813 established two *cheriya* or Subordinate Courts; one at Tripunithura and the other at Trichur and '*Valiya*' court was established at Ernakulam. This court was known as Huzur court. It was presided over by the Dewan, a Hindu and a Christian judge, and a Sastri. All disputes were to be settled according to the provisions of the "Dharma Sastras' and the custom of the land. Appeals against the decisions of the subordinate court were to be filed in the Huzur court. But in 1818 Dewan Nanjappayya by a proclamation converted Huzur court into Appeal court.

3. FORMATION OF MUNSIFF'S COURT

The year 1835 marks the beginning of the Munsiff Courts in Cochin state.

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In the same year by a regulation (First regulation of 1010 M.E) the jurisdiction of the courts were extended to taluks. As a part of it, the Tahsildars were given judicial powers. In 1852, the Tahsildar of Chittoor Taluk had been invested with the powers of a Munsiff. The Regulation I of 1861 provided for the establishment of Munsiff Courts at Ernakulam and Chittoor. In 1868 a separate Munsiff court was established in Trichur Taluk, and one at Cochin Taluk in 1877 A.D. The establishment of Munsiff Courts provide some relief to the Zilla courts, where the volume of work had increased considerably. This was abolished in 1883 but was revived seven years later.

ESTABLISHMENT OF HIGH COURT

In 1882, during the reign of Rama Varma four classes of courts were constituted by Regulation I of 1881-82 viz., The Munsiff's court, the Zilla Court, the Appeal Court and his Highness the Raja's Court of appeal.

The reign of Rama Varma (1895-1914) marks an epoch-making change in the Cochin judicial system. By Regulation X of 1076 (1900-91) he constituted a Chief Court instead of Rajas Court of Appeal. In the same year the name of Zilla Court was changed into District court. Village and Panchayat Courts were also set up by him In 1938 the Chief Court of Cochin was converted into High Court.

The High court was situated in Ernakulam. Even after the formation of Kerala State on 1st November 1956, the High Court of Kerala has not been shifted from Ernakulam.

RECORD SERIES

The Judicial records in the Regional Archiv, Ernakulam consist of Judicial Vischal orders, Judicial Yadest, File Books, Petitioners, Judicial Records, records regarding every Taluk in Cochin etc. The details of the available records in this group are given below.

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JUDICIAL RECORDS

Sl.No	Record No.	Item	year
01	2905	Judicial Vischal Order	1013
02	2906	Judicial Vischal Order	1013
03	2907	Judicial Vischal Order	1014
04	2908	Judicial Vischal Order	1020
05	2908	Judicial Vischal Order	-
06	2909	Judicial Vischal Order	1025
07	2910	Judicial Vischal Order	1027
08	2910	Judicial Vischal Order	1027
09	2913	Judicial Vischal Order	1029
10	2914	Judicial Yadest	1030
11	2915	Judicial Vischal Order	1030-31
12	2916	Judicial Yadest	1031
13	2917	Judicial Orders I	1032
14	2918	Judicial Yadest	1032
15	2919	Judicial Orders I	1033
16	2920	Judicial Orders II	1033
17	2921	Judicial Visechal	1033
18	2922	Judicial Orders	1034
19	2923	Judicial Police Orders	1034
20	2924	Judicial Yadest	1034
21	2925	Judicial File Book	1034
22	2926	Judicial Tahsildars Order Book	1035
23	2927	-do-	1035
24	2928	Judicial Order Book and Miscellaneous Book	1035
25	2929	-do-	1035
26	2930	Judicial Orders	1035
27	2931	Judicial Vischal	1034,35,36
28	2932	Judicial Tahsildars Book I	1036
29	2933	Judicial Tahsildars Book II	1036
30	2934	Judicial and petitions I	1036
31	2935	Judicial and Petitions II	1036

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32	2936	Judicial Yadest	1036
33	2937	Judicial Cochin	1037
34	2938	Judicial Kanayannur	1037
35	2939	Judicial Mukundapuram	1037
36	2940	Trichur & Thalappilly	1037
37	2941	Judicial Chittoor & Crangannur	1037
38	2942	Judicial Peishkar	1037
39	2943	Judicial Palavaka	1037
40	2944	Judicial Yadest	1037
41	2945	Judicial File Book	1037
42	2946	Judicial Cochin	1038
43	2947	Judicial Kanayannur	1038
45	2948	Judicial Trichur & Thalappilly	1038
46	2949	Judicial Peishkar	1038
47	2950	Judicial Palavaka	1038
48	2951	Judicial Yadest	1038
49	2952	Judicial File Book I	1038
50	2953	Judicial File Book II	1038
51	2954	Judicial Cochin	1039
52	2955	Judicial Kanayannur	1039
53	2956	Judicial Mukundapuram	1039
54	2957	Judicial Trichur & Thalappilly	1039
55	2958	Chittoor & Crangannur	1039
56	2959	Judicial Peishkar	1039
57	2960	Judicial Vischal	1039
58	2961	Judicial Palavaka	1039
59	2962	Judicial Yadest	1039
60	2963	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1039
61	2964	Judicial Cochin Taluk	1040
62	2965	Judicial Kanayannur	1040
63	2966	Judicial Mukundapuram	1040
64	2967	Judicial Trichur & Thalappilly	1040
65	2968	Judicial Chittoor & Thalappilly	1040
66	2969	Judicial Chittoor & Crangannur	1040

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67	2970	Judicial Palavaka	1040
68	2971	Judicial Yadest	1040
69	2972	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1040
70	2973	Judicial Cochin Taluk	1040
71	2974	Judicial Kanayannur	1041
72			
73	2975	Judicial Trichur Taluk & Thalappilly	1041
74	2977	Judicial Chittoor & Crangannur	1041
75	2978	Judicial Palavaka	1041
76	2979	Judicial Yadest	1041
77	2980	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1042
78	2981	Judicial Cochin Taluk	1042
79	2982	Judicial Kanayannur	1042
80	2983	Judicial Mukundapuram & Crangannur	1042
81	2984	Judicial Trichur & Thalappilly Judicial Chittoor & Crangannur	1042
82	2985	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1042
83	2986	Judicial Palavaka	1042
84	2987	Judicial Yadest	1043
85	2988	Judicial Cochin	1043
86	2990	Judicial Kanayannur	1043
87	2991	Judicial Mukundapuram	1043
88	2992	Judicial Trichur & Thalappilly Judicial Chittoor & Crangannur	1043
89	2993	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1042
90	2988	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1042
91	2994	Judicial Palavaka	1043
92	2995	Judicial Yadest	1044
93	2996	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1044
94	2997	Judicial Cochin, Kanayannur & Crangannur	1044
95	2998	Judicial Mukundapuram & Trichur ThalappillyChittoor	1044
96	2990	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1044
97	3000	Judicial Palavaka	1044

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98	3001	Judicial Yadest	1044
99	3002	Judicial Cochin	1045
100	3003	Judicial Kanayannur	1046
101	3004	Judicial Mukundapuram, Trichur	1047
102	3005	Judicial Thalappilly, Chittoor	1047
103	3006	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1048
104	3007	Judicial Palavaka	1048
105	3008	Judicial Yadest	1048
106	3009	Judicial Cochin	1049
107	3010	Judicial Kanayannur	1046
108	3011	Judicial Mukundapuram & Trichur ThalappillyChittoor, and Crangannur	1046
109	3012	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1046
110	3013	Judicial Palavaka	1046
111	3014	Judicial Yadest	1046
112	3015	Judicial Miscellaneous File	1046
113	3016	Judicial Cochin	1047
114	3017	Judicial Kanayannur	1047
115	3018	Judicial Mukundapuram & Trichur ThalappillyChittoor, and Crangannur	1047
116	3019	Judicial Dewan Peishkar	1048
117	3020	Judicial Palavaka	1048

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Introduction to Western System of Medical treatment

(1818A.D)

First Sirkar Hospital

(1848 A.D)

Re-organisation of Medical Department

(1898 A.D)

Contribution of Sanitary Boards

(1896 A.D)

Leper Asylum

(1909 A.D)

Contribution of Public Health Department

(1909 A.D)

Re-organisation of Sanitary Department

(1914 A.D)

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6. MEDICAL AND SANITARY DEPARTMENT

Ayurveda was the popular system of Medical treatment prevalent in the Cochin State before the introduction of Allopathy. Many reputed Ayurvedic physicians were entertained as palace physicians by the rulers of Cochin. It was due to the efforts of Uzhuthara Warrier, a palace physician, the commentary on the *Astanga Samgraha* by Indu, the disciple of Vagbhata, was published. Some of the Maharajas of Cochin were themselves experts in Ayurveda, and under their patronage a large number of dispensaries and hospitals offering Ayurvedic treatment sprang up in different parts of the erstwhile Cochin State.

The first attempt at introducing the Western system of medical treatment in the State was made by a missionary, Rev. J. Dawson, who opened a Dispensary in Mattancherry in 1818. Unfortunately, his mission did not prove a success. In 1848 Dewan Sankara Warrier opened the first Sirkar Hospital (the charity Hosptial of Ernakulam) which later developed into the General Hospital , Ernakulam with all modern amenities, under the charge of the senior Assistant Surgeon. After a lapse of four decades hospitals were opened at Thripunithura, Mattancherry, Andikkadavu, Njarakkal etc.

The Medical Department was till the end of the year 1895 under the control of the Civil Surgeon of British Cochin, who was also the Chief Medical Officer of the Sirkar. Apart from the General Hospital , the other hospitals and dispensaries (viz., those at Trichur, Nenmara, Kunnamkulam, Kodungallur, Chalakkudi, Irinjalakuda, Wadakkancherry and Chittoor) were in charge of qualified Hospital Assistants.

There was no separate department for sanitation. There was also a special vaccination staff consisting of a Superintendent, a Deputy Inspector, a Head Vaccinator and a dozen vaccinators.

The re-organisation of the Medical Department was taken up towards the end of 1897 and brought into force in 1898. In the field of Public health, Sanitary Boards were constituted for the towns of Ernakulam and Mattancherry in 1896. By 1898 sanitary boards were organised for five more towns,viz.Chittoor, Irinjalakuda, kunnamkulam, Tathamangalam and Nemmara.

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From the very beginning of the Dewanship of Mr. Banerji, attention was given for the improvement of the medical institutions of the state. As a first step two new dispensaries were opened, one at Njarakkal and the other at Andikkadavu.

In 1909, a new dispensary was opened at Pazhayannur. The staff of the General Hospital at Ernakulam was also strengthened by the addition of matrons and coolies. In 1910 the male dispensary at Mattancherry was separated from the women and Children's hospital. In 1911, a dispensary was opened at Palapilly for the benefit of the Planters and labourers in the Rubber estates.

LEPER ASYLUM

In 1909. The Lepers' Regulation No. VI of 1909 was passed and under the provisions of this Regulation, a Leper Asylum was opened towards the end of the year and located on the Island of Venduruthy between Ernakulam and Matancherry. In pursuance of the policy laid down for the development of Agriculture in the State, a beginning was made in 1909 affording veterinary aid by establishing a Veterinary Hospital at Trichur with one qualified Veterinary Assistant, one Compounder and five menials. In 1910, the staff of the institution was strengthened by the appointment of a second grade Veterinary Graduate. With regard to the increased usefulness and success of the Veterinary hospital at Trichur, it was resolved to extend veterniary aid to other parts of the State and accordingly a Veterinary Dispensary was opened at Ernakulam from the beginning of 1912 and another at Tathamangalam from the beginning of 1913. These dispensaries were in charge of qualified Veterinary Assistants.

SANITATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH

The first instalment of reforms in this direction was the re-organisation of the vaccination staff. A scheme was subsequently worked out for the constitution of a separate department of public Health in 1909. The new Public Health Department was placed under the immediate control of the Chief Medical Officer by making him the Chief Sanitary Officer.

RURAL SANITATION

The most important feature of the new scheme was the provision made for the improvement of rural sanitation. For the purpose of sanitation of the rural parts, the State was divided into two divisions, Northern and Southern, each being placed in charge of a qualified Sanitary Inspector. He was made

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responsible for supervision over vaccination, fairs and festivals and epidemics. The Sanitary inspectors were supervised by the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. The posts of the Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of vaccination were abolished, and the staff of vaccinators were placed under the Sanitary Inspectors. With the object of improving the sanitation of rural parts, a special establishment of four gangs, each consistingof a Maistry and Six Sweepers was sanctioned along with the re-organisation of the Department. These gangs visited all the villages in rotation and their work was supervised by the two division Sanitary Inspectors. They attended chiefly to keeping the village lanes and bazaar streets clean and their services were also utilised in times of fairs and festivals and during the season of epidemics. As it was found on actual experience that these gangs could do very little, the whole staff except that in the Chittoor Taluk was abolished in 1910.

SANITATION OF TOWNS

Under the new scheme, all the existing sanitary Boards were placed under the supervision of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer. Certified sanitary Inspectors were also appointed for all towns in place of unqualified men.

MARKETS:

All the markets in the state were brought under the control of the Sanitary Department and a Market Inspector was appointed to supervise the same. The Market Inspector's post was however subsequently abolished in 1911 and the two Division Sanitary Inspectors were given full control over the markets in their respective divisions.

IMPROVEMENTS OF WATER SUPPLY IN RURAL PARTS

All the public wells and Tanks in the state were transferred from the charge of the Public Works Department to that of the Sanitary Department. A mechanic was deputed to undergo a course of six month's training and a set of well-boring apparatus was also purchased from the public works Workshop, Madras. The conduct of well-boring apparatus was placed under the supervision of the Special Water Works Engineer.

The Sanitary Department was again re-organised from the beginning of 1914. The posts of Division and Third Grade Sanitary Inspectors were abolished and five Taluk Sanitary Inspectors in different grades on an improved scale of pay were appointed so that they might more freely exercise supervision over

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the limited rural areas in their charge. A Draftsman was also appointed in the office of the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer for the preparation of plans and estimates for sanitary works.

The Cochin Municipal and Sanitary Improvement Regulation which was pending consideration was carefully drafted and brought out as Regulation I of 1910. It came into force during the third quarter of 1910 AD. By the introduction of the Regulation, the sanitary boards at Ernakulam, Mattancherry and Trichur were constituted as Town Councils under the Regulation. A Town Council was also constituted at Chittoor-Tathamangalam at the beginning of 1914 AD.

RECORD SERIES

As for as the Medical Department, is concerned, Regional Archives Ernakulam holds Medical Officers Book for the period from 1892-1898. There are four volumes in this group, containing letters received by the Dewan of Cochin from the Medical Officer. These letters deal with the appointment of Doctors and other staff Inspection reports, vouchers of Medicines, instruments, monthly and annual returns etc. They are as follows.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' BOOK

Sl.No.	Subject	Period	No. of records
01.	Appointment of Doctors	1068.ME 1893 A.D	1
02.	Corresponding letters between Dewan and Medical Officers on different Administrative matters	1068-1071 ME 1893 -1896A.D	1
03.	Letters regarding small pox and other Calamities in Ernakulam	1069 ME 1894A.D	1
04.	Letters regarding the dismissal of a Vaccinator and other administrative matters	1070-1071 ME 1895 -1896A.D	1

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GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Traditional system under Gurukulam or salas

Direct involvement of State

(1818)

Beginning of Modern Education

(1835)

Female Education

(1889)

Educational Department

(1890)

Number of Schools increased

(1892)

Department of Public Instruction

(1908)

Educational Reforms

(1911)

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7. EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The history of Education in Cochin State goes back to very early days. In the ancient period the State did not maintain any schools but the people were allowed to make their own arrangements for the education of their children. The former name of educational institution was known as *'sala* or *patasala.'* These schools were presided over by *Asans* or Village School masters. Each *kara* had its own *patasala* or village school. These schools were of the mixed type in which both boys and girls were taught reading and writing. They were held either in the houses of rich men or in sheds put up by the people of the *kara.*

The Namboothiri Brahmins enjoyed many privileges in the *salas*. They were given free food and accommodation. Members of other castes were not admitted in the *salas* and higher education in Sanskrit was monopolised by the Brahmins. The traditional system of education which prevailed in the Cochin State was known as **Gurukula Vidyabhyasa.*

The system of education changed from the 16th century onwards (the Porteguese period). The porteguese and the Dutch built many schools and colleges. Under the Porteguese, Cochin was the seat of a Jesuit College.

Mention may also be made about the rulers of Cochin and their contributions to learning. During that time Tripunithura developed into a great Centre of Scholars and learned men under the patronage of Cochin Rulers..

It was during the time of the British, the system of education completely changed. State activity in the field of education began in Cochin from the time of Col. Munro. At his instance a Proclamation was issued in 1818 by the ruler of Cochin establishing 33 Malayalam schools. In the same year the first English medium school was opened at Mattancherry by a Missionary.

The year 1835 marks the beginning of modern education in Cochin. In this year 6 vernacular schools were started at each Taluk.

In 1890 a Department of Vernacular Education was started. In 1892 these

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*Every village had its own school master and five to ten years were required for the acquisition of

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Vernacular and English schools were amalgamated and placed under the control of a Superintendent of Education

Considerable progress was made in the field of Education during the time of Dewan A.R Banerji (1907-1914). Till 1908 the educational system of the state was under the control of the Education Department. The whole State was divided into various educational districts for this purpose.

In 1908 during the reign of Rama Varma and Dewan A.R Banerji some developments took place in the administration of the Department. The name of the Department was changed to the Department of Public Instruction.

Thus the Department came under the administrative control of the Directorate of Public Instruction and two subordinate officers called the Personal Assistant and the Financial Assistant were appointed The Personal Assistant was the ministerial head of the office and was primarily responsible to the Director on all papers relating to the general administration of the department. The financial Assistant advised the Director in all matters relating to receipts and expenditure of the Department.

The introduction of Education Code in 1910 effected through the remodelling of the Department.

Establishment of College Education, formation of Universities in the State and education department in the Secretariat were later developments.

The following records are available in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam.

Sl.No	Subject	
1.Vol I	Report on the School of H.H the Raja of Cochin	1865-1866
2. Vol II	Abstract of Accounts of Money raised and expended in the High School of H.H . The Maharajas of Cochin and Ernakulam	1871-1872
3.Vol III	Educational Correspondence with District Schools	1874-76
4.Vol IV	Educational Correspondence with High Schools	1879-81
5.Vol V	Educational correspondence with Dewan	1875-1878

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6.Vol VI	Educational Correspondence	1882-1884
7.Vol VII	Educational Correspondence with High Schools	1885-1887
8.Vol VIII	-do-	1889-1890
9.Vol IX	-do-	1891
10.Vol X	-do-	1892
11.Vol XI	Service list Department of Education Cochin	1859-96
12.Vol XII	Educational Correspondence with High Schools	1887-1890
13.Vol.XIII	Minute Book Correspondence	1879-1884
14.Vol XIV	-do-	1884-1887
15.Vol XV	-do-	1890
16.Vol XVI	Educational Secretary's Diary	1892
17.Vol XVII	-do-	1894-95
18.Vol.XVIII	-do-	1894
19.Vol.XIX	Correspondence with Superintendent of Education, Trichur	1895-1896
20.Vol XX	Education Correspondence with High Schools	1887-1890
21.Vol XXI	Educational Secretary's Office	1897 Vol.II
22.VolXXII	Educational Correspondence District Schools	1869-71
23.Vol.XXIII	Educational Correspondence High Schools	1888
24.Vol.XXIV	-do-	1869
25.Vol.XXV	Jail Custom School and Forest	1893
26.VolXXVI	-do-	1894
27.Vol XXVII	-do-	1895
28.Vol XXVIII	Educational Secretary's Diary	1895
29.Vol.XXIX	Progress Report of the Superintendent of EKM	1069 M.E
30.Vol.XXX	Educational Secretary's Diary	1892
31.Vol.XXXI	Educational Correspondence High Schools	1888-92

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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FORMED
(PUBLIC WORKS/MARAMATH)

1869

ABOLITION OF MARAMATH DEPARTMENT

1897

RE-ORGANISATION

1899

REFORMS IN THE DEPARTMENT

1904

RE-ORGANISATION

1908

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8. PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Before the formation of Huzur Secretariat and various departments, the Palace or Durbar controlled the administration of the Cochin State. Considerable progress has been made in the Departments which were organised towards the close of the year 1869 under the supervision of Mr. Morrison the Civil Engineer. There were two departments in charge of execution of public works, viz., (I) Public Works Department proper under the control of the Chief Engineer and (ii) the Maramath department under the control of the *Maramath Parisodhakan*. The operations of the Maramath Department, though originally intended to be confined to palaces and pagodas, was considered undesirable on sentimental grounds to be entrusted with the Chief Engineer. The works practically comprised public works of almost every description involving large expenditure, which could have been done by professional men. The whole work of Maramath Department used to be done by Revenue officers and a set of ill-paid men who had no professional training or knowledge. It is noteworthy that the expenditure by the Maramath Department was nearly half of that by the Regular Public Works Department.

The main defect of the department was that the staff working there did not have any professional training or knowledge. The first step of reforms introduced in Public Works Department, was the abolition of the Maramath Department in1897. From April 1897, the Maramath Department was not allowed to undertake any new work and the Maramath staff was engaged in completing the works already undertaken by them, and in preparing completion bills. After this, all works were carried out by Public Works Department under the Chief Engineer who was assisted by an Assistant Engineer, two Supervisors, four Overseers and one Sub Overseer. Three of the Supervisors are in charge of the three divisions of the state

The establishment of the Public Works Department-both executive and ministerial was revised with effect from 1904. The Department was organised in its present form in 1902 i.e., during the Dewanship of A.R Banerjee. He examined the system of working of the Public Works Department, and laid down definite rules for the administration of the department in its several branches. One of the Chief defects in the administration of the Public Works Department was that the department was considerably undermanned and most

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of the subordinate executive officers insufficient. To remedy this, the question of revision of staff was taken up and a re-organisation scheme was drawn up and introduced from the beginning of 1908. Now the Public Works Department was placed under the control of the Chief Engineer who was assisted by an Assistant Engineer (a trained European Engineer specially selected from England). The number of supervisors was increased from two to three. A separate Sub-overseer was appointed in charge of the temple works.

A separate Irrigation Branch was also constituted with a Supervisor and two Sub –Overseers for all the irrigation work in the State. Subsequent to the constitution of a separate irrigation Branch, the Durbar began to develop the Irrigation system in the Chittoor Taluk by acquiring the rights over important private irrigation systems in the taluk. Finally, the irrigation systems were placed under the control of a separate overseer with three section superintendents in different Taluks.

The system of maintenance of roads was introduced soon after Mr. Banerji took charge of the administration. Arrangements were made for the outright repair of several of the important roads in the state, and special grants were also made for the purpose. In addition to the opening up of new roads, many of the old abandoned roads were brought under maintenance. The maintenance of navigable canals in the Southern taluks of the state was undertaken.

Another reform in the methods of working of the Public Works Department was the introduction of what was known as the P.C.R system. Under this system, the execution of petty repairs and the annual maintenance of the buildings were controlled by the several departments of the state other than by the Public Works Department. The adoption of this system was intended to relieve considerably the work of the Public Works Department. Necessary instructions were also issued for the check and measurement of the works executed and for the prompt payment of their bills. This system continued to work very satisfactorily.

Several important works of public utility were also undertaken and carried out and several large buildings were also constructed. A large expenditure was incurred for school buildings in various centres of the State.

Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department

The question of development of Irrigation in the state received the earnest

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attention of Mr. Banerji. The policy of bringing the irrigation system in Chittoor Taluk under Sirkar control was initiated by Pattabhirama Rao and continued by Mr. Banerji. In order to make better provisions for the exercise of control and regulation of the management of certain private irrigation systems in the Chittoor Taluk, Mr. Banerji forwarded to the British Resident a draft proclamation for the advice of the Madras Government.

With reference to the Proclamation, the Chief Engineer or any other officer of the Durbar was to take charge of the said irrigation system. The expression 'Private Irrigation System' means any irrigation system not constructed by the Sirkar and not at present controlled or managed by the State Public works Department and includes anicut, sluices, canals, channels distributaries, drains etc. A scheme for the regulation of water supply from the irrigation system in the Chittoor Taluk was also drawn up and brought into force and the establishment required for the proper upkeep and maintenance of the various distributary channels was also entertained. The wishes of the ryots were carefully ascertained before the rules were promulgated. Arrangements were also made for effecting improvements to the Moolathara irrigation system. But the work could not be executed, as the Madras Government insisted that all disputes relating to the supply of water to the British lands should be settled before the commencement of work.

With a view to securing timely and regular maintenance, minor irrigation system ie., chiras ,tanks etc were transferred to the Revenue Department . Necessary rules were also framed for the proper upkeep and maintenance of minor irrigation work and embodied in the Land revenue manual.

The post of a Minor Irrigation Overseer was created to help the Dewan peishkar in supervising this branch of the land Revenue Department.

Some records relating to the Maramath Accounts (1857-1900 AD) are being kept in the Regional Archives Ernakulam. They are Maramath Accounts, list of Sirkar buildings, list of articles in Sirkar buildings etc. These records show the different work done by the P.W.D and Revenue officers such as construction of Roads and Bridges, buildings etc:

The records in this collection include the following.

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MARAMATH ACCOUNT/MARAMATH ERADAVU

Sl.No	Name of Taluk	Year	Vol No.
1	Mukundapuram	1032-1074 M.E 1857-1899 A.D	2
2	Thalappilly	1034-1072 M.E 1859-1897 A.D	4
3	For all Taluks	1034-1075 M.E 1859-1900 A.D	2
4	For all Taluks	1034-1075 M.E 1859-1900 A.D	10
5	Chittoor	1035-1075M.E 1860-1900 A.D	3
6	Kanayannur	1036-1074 M.E 1861-1899 A.D	1
7	Cochin	1044-1073 M.E 1869-1898A.D	6

MARAMATH ACCOUNT

ORDERS TO CONSERVATORS

Sl.No.	Book No.	Vol No.	Year
1	1919	1	1043-1065 M.E 1868-1890 A.D
2	"	4	"
3	"	6	"
4	"	8	"
5	"	11	"
6	"	13	"
6	"	15	"

MARAMATH ACCOUNTS

Sl.No	Book No.	Vol No.	Year
1	1918	1	1050-1063 M.E 1875-1888 A.D
2	"	3	"
3	"	6	"
4	"	10	"
5	"	12	"
6	"	14	"
7	"	15	"

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GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST AND TRAMWAY

Commercial Agent

(1800 A.D)

Introduction of Departmental working

(1818 A.D)

Administrative Divisions

(1838 A.D)

Timber Monopoly

(1840 A.D)

Separation of Forest from Revenue

(1876 A.D)

Contract System

(1880 A.D)

keddah system

(1800 A.D)

Protection of Forests -Re-organisation of the

Department (1893-1899 A.D)

Separation of Tramway from the Forest Department

(1907 A.D)

Department Re-organisation

(1908 A.D)

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9. GROWTH OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREST

Over half of the area of the State was at one time covered with forests. But gradual extension of cultivation has reduced their extent considerably.

The feudal chiefs owned a large extent of forests in the state when they were in power. The major portion of the forest was claimed by private jenmis till 1780, but they all came into possession of the State between 1760 and 1780 A.D.

The Cochin forests from the early times were divided into six ranges or divisions. Later, a seventh division was also added. The most valuable trees in the Cochin forests were Teak, ebony, blackwood etc. These trees were monopolised by the State during the earlier period. During the Portuguese and Dutch period timber and teak were largely used for ship-building.

Great development took place in the Cochin Forest system during the time of the British. As part of this, Col. Munro made arrangements for the departmental work of the forest. An officer designated Superintendent of forests was appointed as the head of the Department in 1813 A.D. He was assisted by a team of writers, accountants, peons and workmen.

Considerable progress has been made in the Forest Department during the Dewanship of Venkata Subayya. He paid special attention to the improvement of forest administration. He appointed a Conservator of Forest in the State. The whole forest was divided into seven divisions and each was placed in charge of a Vicharippukaran*, assisted by a staff of Accountants, Guards and Watchmen.

The right of collecting dry firewood in each of seven districts was sold by auction every year. The contractors themselves did not remove the firewood, but issued permits to professional firewood gatherers who had to pay a prescribed scale of fees to the former.

The year 1890 saw some significant developments in the field of forests. In the same year the "Keddah System" was introduced by which the Conservator of forests succeeded in capturing some elephants at small cost. But the system was never again repeated for some reasons.

**Vicharippukaran*-Manager of profitable administration. As a part of it the Forest Department was removed from the Revenue Department. Well-paid men who were trained in the forest schools at Dehra Dun replaced the old low-paid subordinates.

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The year 1899 marks the beginning of the present system of forest administration. Till 1899 the Forest Department was a part of the Revenue Department. Then the Cochin Government inspected the State Forest and formulated proposals for there

According to the Regulation of 1905 almost all the forest area was reserved under the State monopoly. A special forest settlement officer was appointed to enquire into and determine all claims connected with the land comprised within the lands proposed. The settlement was thus carried out without any hardship and the most satisfactory feature of the work was that the Government had not to acquire any land to extinguish private right.

WORKING OF FOREST TRAMWAY

The working of the Tramway engaged Mr. Banerjee's earnest attention ever since he took charge of the administration. The construction of the Tramway line had practically been completed when Mr. Banerjee took charge as Dewan.

SEPARATION OF TRAMWAY FROM FOREST DEPARTMENT

In 1908 the Conservator of Forests submitted proposals for the maintenance of the Tramway line. Before sanctioning the estimate submitted by the Conservator of Forests, the Dewan considered it necessary to take expert opinion on the subject and accordingly requested Mr. H.J Thomson, Chief Engineer of the Madras Railway companies to inspect the line.

The suggestions given by Mr. Thomson were carefully considered and carried out by the Durbar and the policy to be followed in future in the working of the Tramway was clearly laid down on 12th November 1907. (Dewan's Proceedings dated 12th November 1907 (R.O.C No.931/83). The most important of the suggestions made by Mr. Thompson was the separation of the Tramway from Forest Department and placing it under the direct control of the Dewan. Agreeing to this suggestion, the administration of the Tramway was separated from the Forest Department from 1907.

RECORD SERIES

The records preserved here in this connection are termed Conservator's letters, Teak plantations etc. The Conservators letters cover the period from 1870-1878 while the other covering 1870 and 1890 A.D They are the following.

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No.	Subject	Period
1	Conservator's Letters	1870-1872 A.D
2	"	1870-1883
3	"	1879-1883
4	"	1873-1878
5	"	1877-1878
6	Teak Plantation	1876-1877
7	"	1878-1879
8	"	1880-1881
9	"	1885
10	"	1889-1890
11	A proclamation dated 29.12.1925 to amend the Cochin Forest Regulation.	

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II. HISTORICAL RECORDS

The history of Kerala of which Cochin is a portion was shrouded in obscurity till the advent of the Portuguese at the close of the 15th Century. No record relating to the period before the advent of the Portuguese exists in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam.

Under the Portuguese and the Dutch, Cochin rapidly grew into a large and a flourishing town. The rulers of Cochin gave a warm welcome to the foreigners and greeted them as friends. But, the Rajas lost their position when the Dutch landed in Cochin. The Cochin Raja then made friendly relations with the Dutch.

In 1663 a treaty was made between these two by which the Dutch became the ally of Cochin. Like the Portuguese the Dutch lost their position in Cochin as well as in Kerala with the advent of the British. The latter made a treaty in 1791 with the Cochin Raja Rama Varma, known in history as Sakthan Thampuran (1790-1805). Gradually the British controlled the administration of the Cochin State. The British continued their rule till 1947.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF THE STATE

As already stated the early political history of the State of Cochin is shrouded in mystery. The records relating to the period before the advent of the Portuguese exist in the central records. Even the records relating to the early Portuguese and Dutch settlements are also not available.

There is a reference to the Huzur Cutcherry (i.e Secretariat or office of the Dewan). It was in the year 1818 that the Post of Dewan was created in Cochin and Col. Munro became the first Dewan of Cochin and Travancore. After 1818 the Dewan became the administrative head of the State. Prior to this, an officer appointed by His Highness the Maharaja; called '*Valiya Sarvadhikaryakkar*' was the administrative head of the State

For the purpose of revenue administration the state was divided into two divisions (1) *Vadakke Mukhom* or Northern Division and *Thekke Mukhom* or Southern Division. Each of these divisions was placed *Kovilakathum Vathukkals* and each sub division consisted of a number of *proverthies*. The *Proverthy* was the smallest unit of administration and was placed under an officer called Proverthykaran (now called Village Officer).

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The *Kovilakathum Vathukals* were each placed under a *Kariakar* (changed into Tahsildar subsequently) and the administrative head of the State was Valia Sarvadhikariakkar. The details of the office of the Valiya Sarvadhi Kariakkar are not easily traceable. Col. Munro, the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin, was administering the state of Cochin in 1812. A.D, although the Dewanship was actually created only in 1818 AD. In 1818 the *Valia Sarvadhikaryakkar's* designation was changed into Dewan and that of *Sarvadhi Kariakkar* to *peishkars*. The post of *Dewan peishkar* was created in 1835 A.D.

The Dewan as the head of the administration, was also in charge of the Revenue and Accounts Departments. He also exercised magisterial powers in respect of certain classes of offences. He was assisted by Huzur Cutcherry, consisting of various types of staff. The highest tribunal in the state was His Highness the Raja's court of Appeal. But the administration of justice, civil and Criminal was controlled by the Appeal Court which consisted of three judges. In addition to the Appeal Court there were a number of other departments controlled by various heads. The above, in brief was the system of administration that was prevalent in theearliest times.

The documents under Historical Record series are generally classified into paper and cadjan. These records mainly deal with the political, administrative and social and other matters of the Erstwhile Cochin State.

PAPER RECORDS

Paper records form the bulk of the ancient records available at Regional Archives Ernakulam. Most of the records are manuscripts and they are listed and well arranged. However, some printed and typed copies of records are also available here. Some important items among them are series File, Huzur Secretariat Files, D.O Correspondence, Resident's letters, Dewan's Diaries, Deeds and Agreements etc.

I. SERIES FILES

Paper record holdings known as 'Series Files' constitute the most important item kept in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam. It gives us an idea about the political, historical and administrative matters pertaining to the Dutch and early

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British period. These records are original ones passed between successive rulers of Cochin and the foreign powers. The collection can be classified into three groups.

The first series (1684-1799 A.D) consists of original treaties, disputes, wars, engagements and other letters passed between the Rulers of Cochin and other Powers and feudatories.

The second series covering the period from 1791-1840 A.D mainly related to the period of Col. Munro. The collection is outstanding for some of the epoch- making proclamations then termed as '*Hukkumnamahs*' issued by the rulers.

The third series covers the period between 1812 and 1869 A.D and it deals with proclamations, disputes, Social reforms, Devaswoms affairs etc. Thus the series files collection is considered to be the main source of the history of Kerala of which Cochin is a part. The *series files* include the following records.

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I Series

Subject	Sl.No	Year
1. Dispute between H.H the Cochin Raja and Palghat Kombi Achan about certain lands in Palghat and payment of revenue by H.H. for the same	209	1797A.D
2.Complaint regarding Zamorin's raid into Cochin Raja's country and recently into Nenmara and plunder at the head of armed men	211	1798A.D
3.Crangannore and its historical foundation explained	311	1794 A.D
4. Agitation for reduction of import duty on horses for the company which is the joint revenue of the Dutch & H.H the Cochin Raja	315	1794 A.D
5.Lord Cornwallis defeated Tippu's sepoys who were encamped on the heights near Seringapatam drove them across the river Cauveri; captured 4 guns and halted some $8^{1/2}$miles from Seringapatam General Abereromby took periapatam	340	1781A.D
6.Regarding treaties between H.H and the Dutch	341(12)	1792 AD
7.Letter from Paliath Achan to Col. Macaulay, regarding settlement of accounts with Karthavu Kariakkar and Jews of the Jew town.	351(49)	1807A.D
8.Rebellion of Pazhasi Thampuran (Raja of Kottayam) and the loss of English army despatched for suppression and of the consequent general disorder in the country described in full	354(14)	1797 A.D
9.Regarding the rebellion of the Rajas of Cherakkal and Kottayam and the intention of Katathunadu to join them	369(8)	1794 A.D
10.Conclusion of the treaty with Hyder Ali, the terms of which were not known. Defeat of the English in the engagement with the Maharatas.	375(6)	1781 A.D
11. War between France and England and Maharashtra War	383XVII	1801 A.D
12.Regarding War with Tippu Sultan (Mysore War)	383XVII,1	1801 A.D
13. Treaty between the English and Tippu Sultan(Treaty of Mangalore) vide correspondence between H.H and the Dutch Governor Van Angelbeck	LXXII;XII	1784
14.First treaty between the Cochin Raja and the English East India Company 3 papers (original, draft and copy)	LXXIIXIV	1791 A.D
15. Last treaty with the English 6 papers (Original & 5 copies)	LXXII;XVIII	1809 A.D

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II Series

1. Complaint from Akavoor Nambury regarding the enforcement of collection in 985 of assessment '*Vithara*' *Muppara* and '*Ettennue*' upon his lands in Vellarapilly pravarthy which the petitioner alleges, were free of all these assessments till 984.	3	1811 A.D
2. Resident requires to be furnished with copies of treaties and engagements between the Raja of Cochin and Kodungallur Raja.	157	1813 A.D
3. Stating in detail the nature of a dispute in connection with the Tripunithura temple, H.H requests the Resident to compel the parties to give proper answers; and forward a copy of "*Grandhavari*" useful for reference in this connection.	240	1813 A.D
4.Refers to Captain Blacker the complaint of the variers in Cochin that they do not receive the usual help from Konkany temple for their marriage and other ceremonies	362	1814 A.D
5. Communicating the complaint of Karimpatr Chummukutty Amma regarding the stoppage of her daily allowance. His Highness recommends the continuance of the former practice.	418	1816 Ad
6.Communicates the conclusion of peace between France and the East India Company and order has been issued for the friendly treatment of Frenchmen and Vassels.	526	1812 A.D
7Forwards for enquiry and report a copy of an anonymous petition regarding Thenia of 'white jews' quarters.	708	1817 A.D
8. Order has been issued for dividing the state into 10 taluks instead of 5 for administrative convenience.	923	1818 A.D
9.A proclamation for re-organisation of Courts by converting the courts at Trichur and Anjikaimal into lower or Zilla courts and instituting an appellate court over these. The jurisdiction of all these being well -defined.	1024	1818 A.D
10.A proclamation or regulation laying down rules for revenue collection.	1024	1817 A.D
11.A proclamation prohibiting punishment by private owners of their slaves and reserving the rights of the same to the Sirkar	1060	1822 A.D
12.Letter about establishment of elementary vernacular schools in proverthis for training the young.	1584	1818A.D
13.Communicates the conferring of the title of *metropolitan* on the Vicar General of Syrian churches, Kottayam.	1720	1818 A.D
14. Encloses proclamation in regard to Abkari contract to be stuck up in public places.	1818	1818.A.D
15.Letter protesting against the action of cochin officials who resort to every method to collect tax from the inhabitant of Kalady Sanketham which are Travancore.	1838	1815A.D

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III Series

1. Queen's proclamtion of 1858		
2.copy of the proclamation issued by the Right Hon'ble the Governor General of India on the capture of the important fortunes of Chazani.	11	1852 A.D
3.proposal regarding abolition of inland duties levied on articles produced and consumed within the state (Translation)	1	1839 A.D
4. Regarding the establishment of English Schools.	III 26	1836 A.D
5.Regarding the organisation of medical establishment.	III 26	1847 A.D
6.Copy of a theetturam regarding management of Thirumala Devaswom.	IV 2	1833 A.D
7.A copy of Theetturam regarding dispute with regard to Elamkunnapuzha Devaswom	IV 6	1845 A.D
8. Regarding agricultural advances	IV 11	1846 A.D
9.Encloses regulation and copies of proclamation regarding general revenue Survey and settlement of Nilams, the latter to be signed by his Highness.	VIII 75	1821 A.D
10. Issuing a proclamation declaring that ill -treatment of slave labourers is a punishable offe.ice	VIII 96	1822 A.D
11.Referring to H.H for orders as to whether the Sirkar should undertake the management of the Devaswom as the Uralars of Valappayil Devaswom are disputing among themselves about its management.	VIII 96	1822A.D
12.Issue of proclamation declaring persons guilty of forcible misappropriation of another's property to be liable to punishment.	219	1825A.D
13.Regarding the execution of decree in company's territories tenants in native state of cochin.	XII 1	1819 A.D
14.Regarding dispute between Travancore and Cochin regarding the boundary of Cranganore fort now under Survey.	XV 10	
15. The white Jews of Cochin complaints against the mismanagement of the property of their synagogue.	XVIII 5	1820A.D

2. HUKKUMNAMAHS/PROCLAMATIONS/REGULATIONS/ACTS

Hukkumnamah is the term used to denote "proclamation issued by the rulers in earlier days". Regulation is an act which is prescribed by the ruler. For making a regulation the assent of the ruler is essential.

The following records are available under the head proclamations/Acts Series kept in the Regional Archives.

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1. Queen's proclamation of 1856 November, 1.
2. The Civil procedure Code 1856.
3. Criminal Procedure code 1856.
4. Cochin Penal Code.
5. Proclamation regarding the abolition of slavery,
6. Tobbacco Proclamation.
7. The Cochin Tenancy Regulation.
8. Proclamation regarding Census of Cochin.
9. Cochin Marumakkathayam Act.
10. Cochin Anchal.
11. The Cochin child marriage Restraint Act, 1116,
12. Coinage and Currency Proclamation 1116.
13. Proclamation regarding the Kerala Kalamandalam.
14. Proclamation regarding Cochin Electricity.
15. Proclamation regarding the CochinTemple Entry Authorisation.

3. DEWAN'S ENGLISH AND MALAYALAM DIARIES

The year 1818 A.D saw some significant changes in the history of Cochin and Travancore. It was in the year 1818 that the post of Dewan was created both in Cochin and Travancore. Prior to this, an officer appointed by His Highness the Maharaja, called the *Valia Sarvadhikaryakkar* was the administrative head of the state. For the purpose of revenue administration the whole state was divided into two divisions viz., "*Vadakkemukhom*[1]" and *Thekkemukhom*[2]". Each of these divisions was placed under '*Kovilakathum Vathukkals*' and each sub-division consisted of a number of '*Proverthis*'[3]. Proverthikar or Village Officer administered Proverthy.

Col. Munro, the British Resident in Travancore and Cochin was administering the state of Cochin in 1812 even though the Dewanship was actually created in 1818 A.D.

In 1818 A.D the *Valia Sarvadhikaryakkar's* designation was changed into Dewan and that of *Sarvadhikaryakkar* to *Peishkar*. The Dewan as the head of administration was also in charge of the Revenue and Accounts department. He also exercised certain magisterial powers. He was assisted by various types of staff.

Vadakkemukhom - Northern division
Thekkemukhom - Southern division
Proverthy - Smallest unit of administration (Village).

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Col.Munro became the first Dewan of Cochin and he introduced many administrative, political and social reforms in the state. The most important among them was the formation of Huzur Cutcherry (Huzur Secretariat). The followers of Munro also administered the Cochin State in a systematic manner.

RECORD SERIES

Regional Archives, Ernakulam holds some records titled Dewan's English and Malayalam Diaries. English Diaries are the copies of letters written by Dewans of Cochin State on various administrative matters mostly to the British Resident. They are bound volumes and covering the period from 1814 to 1897. The available records in this group are the following.

Sl. No.	Subject	Year
1	Administrative matters	1814-1819
2	"	1818-1819
3	"	1819-1820
4	"	1820-1821
5	"	1821
6	"	1821-1822
7	"	1822
8	"	1823
9	"	1824
10	"	1825
11	"	1826
12	"	1827
13	"	1828
14	"	1829
15	"	1830
16	"	1831
17	"	1832
18	"	1833
19	"	1834
20	"	1835
21	"	1836
22	"	1837
23	"	1838
24	"	1839
25	"	1840

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DEWAN'S MALAYALAM DIARIES

At the time of the appointment of the first Dewan it was ordered that all communications received and all orders issued by the Dewan should be copied in books. It may be remembered here that there was a centralised administration in Cochin during the earlier period so that even petty officers used to write to the Dewan for orders. These reports and orders are collected and termed as "Dewan's Malayalam Diaries". They cover the period from 1814-1857 A.D. The following records are available in this collection.

No	Period	No.of volumes
1	9th Vrischigam of 6th Mithunam 989 M.E	1
2	13th Vrischigam 989M.E	1
3	18th Vrischigam 989 M.E	1
4	6th Kumbham to 25th Kumbham 989 M.E	1
5	26th Kumbham 989 M.E	1
6	16th Medam 989 to 19th Thulam 990.M.E	1
7	15th Mithunam 989 to 15th Chingam 880 M.E	1
8	11th Karkadagam 990 M.E	1
9	Ist Chingam to 8th Thulam 990 M.E	1
10	Ist Chingam 990 M.E	1
11	2nd Kanni to 10th Thulam 990 M.E	1
12	6th Kanni to 21st Dhanu 990.M.E	
13	17th Kanni to 25th Thulam 990.M.E	
14	13th Thulam to 29th Tulam 990.M.E	
15	14th Thulam to 29th Thulam 990.M.E	
16	22nd Thulam to 10th Kumbham 990.M.E	
17	2nd Vrischigam to 12th Medam 990.M.E	
18	23rd Thulam 990 to 10th Tulam 991M.E	
19	12th Meenam to 25th Chingam 991M.E	
20	Ist Chingam to Ist Meenam 992M.E	
21	Ist Chingam to 20th Vrischigam 993M.E	
22	Ist Chingam to Ist Meenam 992M.E	
23	Ist Chingam to 26th Vrischigam 993 M.E	

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24	14th Chingam to 12th Kumbham 993 M.E
25	5th Kanni to 15th Thulam 994 M.E
26	Ist Kanni to 13th Kanni 994 M.E
27	Ist Dhanu to 15th Dhanu 994 M.E
28	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 995 M.E
29	Ist Kanni to 15th Kanni 995 M.E
30	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 996 M.E
31	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 997 M.E
32	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 998.M.E
33	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 998.M.E
34	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 1000.M.E
35	Ist Chingam to 15th Chingam 1001.M.E

4. THACHUDAYAKAIMAL STHANAM

The affairs of the Koodalmanickam temple at Irinjalakuda are managed by a Kaimal nominated by Travancore at the instance of Cochin Ruler. Travancore is said to have got the right of nomination under the treaties of 1765 and 1805. According to the latter treaty, a Kaimal was appointed in 1808 A.D and when he died in 1851, Cochin appointed one of her officers to manage the Devaswom affairs on the ground that a Kaimal was to be nominated by Tavancore only when the temple required renovation or reconstruction. Travancore protested against the action of Cochin. Some of the Yogakkars petitioned the British Resident for the installation of a Kaimal. This was finally submitted before the arbitrator.

The decision of the arbitrator was that the Kaimal was the manager of the Pagoda and its endowments, that he was the nominee and agent of Travancore and that Cochin had no right of interference in the affairs of the Pagoda. The decision was upheld by the Madras Government and a new Kaimal was accordingly appointed. Being the head of the Koodalmanickam Temple, Thachudaya Kaimal managed the affairs of the temple.

The following are the records available in this regard in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam.

1. Resident's letter dated 3.10.29 to the Cochin Dewan regarding Thachudaya Kaimal Sthanam case.

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2. List of correspondence relating to Thachudaya Kaimal.
3. Papers relating to Thachudaya Sthanam Case.
4. Documents relating to the status of Thachudaya Kaimal.
5 Thachudayal Kaimal's letter to Dewan of Travancore regarding the unnecessary delay in hoisting the flag.
6 Translation of letter from Thachudaya kaimal dated 27.02.1830 to the Dewan of Travancore.
7 A record of consolidated receipt duly registered obtained from Thachudaya kaimal for ornaments, vessels, records etc. of the Koodalmanickam Devaswom.
8 Kaimal's letter to Dewan regarding the Irinjalakuda Temple Festival.
9 The decision of the arbitrator in the dispute between the states of Travancore and Cochin Regarding the Thachudaya Kaimal Sthanam of Irinjalakuda Pagoda.
10 A description of Thachudaya kaimal
11 Thachudaya Kaimal-Enquiry into his conduct and after

5. DEEDS AND AGREEMENT

DEEDS (1908-1947 A.D.)

Deeds consist of title deeds of property, building etc. purchased in the name of the Government in and outside the state. Here the collection constitute lease deeds, sale deeds, mortgage deeds along with power of Attorney, *Teer* deeds, *Kycheet* etc. These are separately classified and listed. Few selected items are mentioned below.

1. Lease deed executed by M/S.T.Stanes &Co., of Coimbatore for the lease of the Springfield tea estate for a term of 3 years from 01.01.1915
2. Lease deed of Mooply assignment of 1102, executed by the Mooply Rubber Co., Ltd., on 25.01.1928 with a map of plot and power of attorney to mr. H.J Walmesly.
3. Lease deed executed by the Alwaye settlement with a plan dated 22.8.1110 for establishing a depressed class colony.
4. Lease of 12 acres of "Spring field' Coonoor. This deed made between

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the Royal family of Cochin and the Nilagiri planters Co. Ltd.

5. Conveyance of Tullock gardens Nangumbankum-Mrs. Emma Rolland to Mrs. Katharine Crob(sale deed dated 5.6.1890)
6. Mortgagee deed of Spring field Estate-Henry Wallace of Coonoor and Edward Kennaway, England, 8.1.1880.
7. Teer deed executed by Thattikkaran Albuthaswamy in favour of Soruiyar and Rathinam registered as 676/15 dated 21.7.15.
8. Kycheet executed by the Kariakar of the white Jews synagogue dated 25.02.1929 in respect of the synagogue's jenmi right over 11 cents of land from sy.No. 955/2 in Rameswaram.
9. Document dated 3.6. 1099 executed by the cashier to the 8th prince for the purchase of the land and building belonging to the prince by the Government.

AGREEMENTS (1897-1942)

The collection constitutes agreement executed by different parties with the Government, such as Abkari Contractors, persons in service on their being deputed for higher studies in medicine etc. Agreements entered into by the Cochin Durbar with the South Indian Railway etc. National Bank of India, Travancore Government are also some of the important items in this group. The records available in this group are the following.

1. Agreement entered into by the Durbar with the South Indian Railway Company 1.1.1908 (5 books).
2. Agreement for the working of the Shornur Cochin Railway dated 4.10.1909.
3. Agreement executed by Messrs. Sydenhum and Pound of London on 16.8.1917 concerning the agency of the Cochin Government for the purchase of European articles.
4. Contract entered into with the Cochin Government by Hajee Ayoob Hajee Hassan of Mattancherry, Cochin Taluk regarding the supply of salt to Cochin Government.
5. Agreement executed by Mr. Arunachalam Chettiar for the supply of salt for the year 1091(1.6.1915).
6. Agreement dated 22.4.14 between Mr. D. Raghavendra Rao first grade

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sub Assistant Surgeon of the Medical Department, of the Government of Cochin and Government.

7. Agreement executed by Miss. G.M. De Souza, sub Assistant Surgeon for medical studies in Europe dated 22.9.1094.

8. Agreement between the Durbar of the Native State of Cochin represented by the Dewan and the National Bank of India ltd.

9. Agreement between the Government of Cochin and Travancore regarding the temporary supply of Electricity, from Pallivasal to the Cochin Government dated 28.3.1943.

10. An agreement executed by Mrs. Katherine Crole on 13th December1898 to appoint S.Ramakrishna Ayyar, Vakil of High Court of Madras as her Attorner.

6. D.O. CORRESPONDENCE

DEWAN'S D.O's

DEWAN'S D.O's consist of all communications between the Dewan and the British residents, on the one hand and the Maharaja and the heads of various departments on the other. It was in the form of Demi Official letters on various matters that were considered to be of a strictly confidential nature. The collection consists of 267 volumes. Approximately they cover a period from 1892 to 1945. The following are the important items worthy of special mention among the collections: -

1. Letter dated 07.01.1913 from the Dewan to the British Resident about the decision to create the post of a first class Magistrate.(Vol.No.32,Sl.No.85)

2. Controversy between the Dewan and some of the Junior male Tampurans(Vol.No.100, Sl. No. 325)

3. Letter dated 16.01.1926 from Dewan of Cochin to Vasudeva Raja Gouri Bagh, Haddow's Road, Cathedral P.O regarding the loan affairs and the present state of the Tenancy Bill (Vol. No.82 Sl.No. 235)

4. Notes on 'the while Mutiny' A forgotten episode in the History of the Indian Army by Sir Alexander Cardew (Vol.No.151)

5. Letter dated 29.12.1993 from J.M.Kumarappa addressed to the Dewan of Cochin regarding the problem of rural reconsideration.

6. Letter dated 18.11.1935 from the Director of Public Instruction to the

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Dewan of Cochin regarding the affairs of Secondary Education (Vol.No.207)

7. Draft scheme for the better management of the Koodalmanickam Devaswom at Irinjalakuda.(Vol.No.42, No. 193)
8. A Proclamation to constitute an Advisory Council for the Cochin State.(Vol No.41, Sl.No.11).
9. Complaints of Ezhavas that their children are not admitted into the High School at Tripunithura (Vol.N.61, Sl.No.61)
10. Letter dated 7th September 1923 from Dewan to the Mon.C.P. Ramaswamy Iyyer C.I.E memebr of Council, Madras regarding princess protection Act Passed by the Imperial Legislature (Vol.No.74)
11. Letter regarding the World Conference on Adult Education to be held in Cambridge(Vol.No.114, Sl.No.22, 23)
12. Confidential letter from Dr.D.Raghava Rao chief Medical and Sanitary Officer to Dewan of Cochin stating about some illegal affairs in the Civil Hospital, Trichur(V.No.131)
13. Letter regarding special concession to the Jewish Community (Vol.No.153, Sl.No.78)
14. Letter dated 01.11.1932 to Rao Sahib T.V.Kasturiranga Ayyar, AG. Dewan of Cochin from the Director of Public Instruction regarding the Education Department.(Vol.No.144)
15. Letter from the Commissioner of Police to Dewan of Cochin dated 22.12.1936 regarding the meeting of the Senatanists held to protest against the Travancore temple entry proclamation,(Vol.No.182)
16. Letter dated 19.07.77 from V.R.Chitra, School of Arts and Crafts, Madras regarding murals of Cochin and their importance in Artworld (Vol.No.227, Sl.No.7)
17. Letter dated 01.06.38 from Dewan of Cochin to Sir Mirza M. Ismail Dewan of Mysore regarding Cochin constitution Act. (Vol.No.234, Sl.No.12)
18. Letter dated 19.07.38 from Dewan to Secretary regarding construction of the new Palathode Road.(Vol.No.238,Sl.No.93)
19. A note on the procedure for the censorship of articles in the course of transmission by imperial post under section 26 of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898.olNo.240,Sl.No. 113)

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20. Letter dated 9.12.40 from Sri.A.U.Raman, sanitary Engineer to Government of Madras to Chief Engineer, P.W.D Chepauk regarding water Supply British Cochin Municipality.(Vol No. 252, Sl.No. 103)
21. Letter dated 23.04.40 from Vallathol Cheruthuruthy to Dewan of Cochin regarding the Kalamandalam9Vol.No.253, Sl.No.27)
22. Letter dated 28.10.12 from Dewan of Cochin to Browning regarding the British Territory(Vol.No.256, Sl.No. 158)
23. letter dated 16.11.14 from H.H to Dewan regarding the opening of Survey School (Vol No.261 Sl.No. 52)
24. Letter dated 18.08.36 from Airachandt, Ag. Manager to Dewan of Cochin regarding the Railway line Management. Vol No. 192, Sl.No. 144)
25. Letter dated 02.11.22 from Dewan of Cochin to Kochu Govinda Marar regarding starting of First grade college (Vol.No.72 Sl.No.30).

7. HUZUR SECRETARIAT FILES

Government Secretariat was at first known as the Huzur Cutcherry (Huzur Secretariat)or Dewan's office. It was Col. Munro, the first Dewan of Cochin who introduced Secretariat system in Cochin and Travancore. In order to promote departmental work he reorganised various departments including Huzur Cutcherry. Since then the Seat of the Dewan was the Huzur Cutcherry and all letters to the Huzur Cutcherry were addressed to the Dewan. The process of re-organisation was continued by the predecessors of Munro till the formation of present Secretariat at Trivandrum.

Some collection of files from the Huzur secretariat departments Ernakulam(capital of Cochin State) were transferred to Central records.(Now Regional Archives Ernakulam).

The records available under this group are the following.

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IMPORTANT LETTERS FROM THE HUZUR SECRETARIAT FILES

Sl.No.	Date	Files	Book No.	Page No.
1	24.08.38	Grant of Special Secondary stipends to depressed class pupils	1	25 to 27
2	29.08.42	Revising of Graduate rule	1	747
3	20.05.40	26th of May to be observed as a day of National Prayer	4	59-61
4	10.02.48	Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd. Inclusion in the list of approval banks-amendment to kuries Rules.	5	71-73
5	15.03.48	S.S.L.C Examination 1948-Blind pupils-conduct of	5	508
6	23.10.43	Cottage industries-Research Section Industrial Centre-Cherps-introduction of	6	27-34
7	25.11.42	Tippu's invasion of Malabar a copy –Librarian, India Office London-Manuscript	7	63-71
8	11.01.36	Old Hebrew inscription-Black Jew Synagogue-Chennamangalam protection of	9	405
9	17.1246	Mural paintings-Sri.Mulam Chitra Sala-transferring to Hill Palace	10	533
10	01.04.36	File of correspondence regarding the Cochin Abkari (amendment) regulation.	13	233
11	26.07.45	Post -war Reconstruction Planning-14 co-operation between Cochin and Travancore contact-meeting between-Reconstruction officers	14	197
12	07.05.40	Rural development-special contribution Agricultural Department-payment of free grant to societies.	16	157
13	03.04.40	Charges for purificatory ceremonies New Malikas for female Thampurans	16	183
14	18.12.47	Port of Cochin-hours of work-overtime etc., for the staff of the Engineering Department-floating Draft.	26	245
15	13.06.49	Pindam ceremonies-late Aliamma Avl. Of Paliam Estate	29	253
16	21.09.37	Pre-historic temple-Kollannur 31 declaration as ancient monument.	31	267
17	21.04.48	Educational concession-children of those who served in world war I	37	729

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18	02.10.48	Free Education-blind pupils	48	41
19	22.03.49	Temple entry authorisation proclamation rules under	61	399
20	08.04.46	United Kerala Adult Education Conference conduct of	55	667&833
21	1936	Practice of granting Theetturams on adoption	60	401
22	13.08.46	Higher studies outside the Higher studies outside the State depressed class students	63	970
23	27.01.48	Union constitution of India-Election to the lower house-Federal parliament-preparation of	65	169
24	29.07.46	Unification of Kerala –Message to the Legislative Council	67	265
25	29.07.47	Aikya Kerala Convention and Kalolsavam	70	577

8. RECORD RELATING TO THE JEWS(1525 onwards)

The Jews are said to have landed first at Mazuris or modern Cranganore in 70A.D. Some Jewish records preserved in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam reveals that due to the persecution of the Portuguese they were forced to leave Cranganore and settled at Cochin in 1513 A.D. The then rulers of Cochin gave them lands to build their churches and synagogues in various parts of Cochin.

RECORD SERIES

The following are the Jews' records kept at Regional Archives Ernakulam.

1. A record relating to the advent of Jews to Kerala (Malayalam Copy)
2. A record relating to the advent of Jews to Kerala (Malayalam copy)
3. English Translation of Jewish copper plate
4. Proclamation notifying that Daniel koyan of white Jews quarters shall be admitted into the synagogue.
5. Will of Ezhkail Rabbi, a Jewish Merchant.
6. Petition from the Jews at Mattanchery to Dewan Nangappayya regarding mismanagement in the Jewish synagogue.
7. Copy of the meeting on the synagogues of the Jews of Cochin and Marriage of Hindus.
8. Complaint made by Jewish and other merchants of Chennamangalam to the Raja.

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9. KONKANI RECORDS

RECORDS RELATED TO GOWDA SARASWATH BRAHMINS OR KONKANIS (1625-1850)

The Gowda Saraswath Brahmins otherwise known as Konkanies were the immigrants from Goa, the Southern most part of konkan. It is said that the mass immigration of the Konkanies to Cochin took place in the year 1560 A.D, when the Portuguese established their religious inquisition at Goa. In order to escape from the religious persecution at the hands of the Portuguese they fled to Cochin. The then rulers of Cochin gave them lands to settle there and to build their temples. They were found at Mattancherry, Palluruthy, Ernakulam, North Paravoor, Vypin etc. Now they form a small linguistic minority in Kerala.

When the Konkanies first came to the Cochin territory, the Cochin Raja gave them lands to build their temples and made arrangements for the conduct of their festivals in the well-endowed temples. (Thirumala Devaswom temple being the most important).

The Konkanies of Cochin were given certain rights and privileges also. The most important among them was the exemption from the payment of a kind of tax known as *'*purus andaram,*' a succession fee.

The year 1791 marked by the terrible persecution of the Konkanies at the hands of Raja Varma, popularly known as Sakthan Thampuran (1790-1805). The Raja persecuted them severely by adopting various terrible measures like demanding the contribution of jaggery from them. On refusal the Raja arrested a number of merchants and ordered them to pay customs duties to the king.

Another measure committed by the Raja was that he made illegal demand of Varahan from the Thirumala Devaswom. This was also refused by the authorities of Thirumal, a Devaswom and finally the trustees of the Devaswom were illegally imprisoned. As protest against this the Konkanies closed down all business establishments at Vypin and Mattancherry.

In 1791 the leading merchants of Konkany community were massacred and they plundered the Thirumala Devaswom Temple at the instance of the Raja. The Dutch on seing the Raja's atrocities sent an army and attacked the King's Palace at Mattancherry but they failed. Then the King persecuted the konkanies with their idol (Thirumala Devaswom) and they fled to Thuravur and Alleppey in Travancore and presented their grievances to the Raja there. At Alleppey

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they installed their God's image. The Raja and his successors made several vain attempts to bring back the deity from Alleppey to Cochin. Finally the image was brought back to Cochin in 1853 A.D. The Konkanies follow certain customs and manners prescribed in the Vedas, the Brahmanas and the Upanishads. They had given much contribution in the field of industry, commerce, education, literature etc. It was with the help of Konkani physicians that the Dutch Governor Van Rheed compiled the world famous botanical book on Malabar Plants named *'Hortus Malabaricus'*

RECORD SERIES

The Regional Archives Ernakulam holds some valuable records relating to the Konkanies in various languages and scripts viz. Malayalam, Sanskrit, Kannada, Marathi, Vattezhuthu etc. Some of them are undeciphered. All these records deal with their advent in Cochin, temple administration and their contribution in various fields etc.

These records include Copper plate, Cadjan and Paper records. The records available under this head are mentioned below:-

01. The Copper plate regarding the origin of kasi Mutt.
02. A Grandham on Thirumala Devaswom affairs (1625-1767 A.D).
03. A Grandham containing Theetturams issued to the Konkani Mahajan of Cochin (1750 A.D).
04. Records relating to Thirumala Devaswom affairs.
05. Petitions from Thirumala Devaswom authorities to His Highness (Series File III) (1823-1850).
06. Letter regarding His Highness' authority over Konkanies.
07. Letter regarding the relation of Konkanies with the Dutch.
08. Letter promising safety and protection to the Konkanies.
09. Protests against the oppression of the Konkanies who are under Dutch protection by making new demands and otherwise (No.182 Series file I).
10. Copy of Theetturam regarding management of Thirumala Devaswom at Cochin.
11. Record deals with the circumstances connected with the removal of Thirumala Thevar to Alleppey.
12. Historical account of the Konkanies and their Dewaswom at Cochin.

* A custom that when a Konkani died without heirs, his property was taken over jointly by the Raja's officers, and the representatives of the Konkanies and was divided into two equal parts one of which went into the Royal treasury and the other to the temple of Thirumala Devaswom.

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13. A copy of the petition to the Resident for the restoration of the idol with the Resident's Endorsement thereon and copies of petitions to the Dewan on the same subject.
14. A copy of the variola submitted to the Dewan regarding mismanagement of Thirumala Devaswom affairs.
15. His Highness' Theettooram addressed to Col. Newal for removal to Cochin of Thirumala Devaswom idol.
16. A long letter regarding the assessment of Thirumala Devaswom lands.
17. A petition submitted by the Konkanies to the Dewan of Cochin-1825 A.D.
18. A petition submitted to the Dewan by the Konkanies of Cochin-1826.
19. A kycheet regarding redemption of Devaswom lands.
20. Dewan's diary-A letter from the Diwan of Cochin to the British Resident giving a brief account of the origin of the settlement in Cochin.(1858 A.D).

III. CADJAN RECORDS

About a century ago when paper was rare, processed palm leaf was the chief material largely used in Kerala for correspondence. These Cadjan records are clasified into "*Churunas*" and "*Grandhas*". The scrolled type of palm leaves are known as *Churuna.* The number of leaves in each bundle varies from 500-1000.

CADJAN GRANDHAS

Cadjan leaves kept in wooden flaps are called *Grandhas.* Cadjan Grandhas are generally classified into *Ozhuku Grandhas* and *historical Grandhas.*

1. OZHUKU GRANDHAS

They are the reproduction of the *Ozhuku Churunas* of various Taluks in Cochin State. Taluk-wise details of the grandhas are given below:

Sl.No.	Taluk	Period	No.of Records
1	Kanayannur	1821-1887 A.D	36
2	Kochi	1821-1857 A.D	42
3	Mukundapuram	1821-1885 A.D	51
4	Trichur	1821-1885 A.D	82
5	Thalapppilly	1821-1869 A.D	39
6	Chittoor	1821-1869A.D	15
7	Kodungallur	1821-1857 A.D	6

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2. HISTORICAL GRANDHAS

Historical Grandhas are 69 in number. The important items among are Dewaswom affairs, Treaties of Cochin Rajas with other companies, Teetturams, Accounts etc. The earliest record available in this series cover the period from 1525 to 1545. With a view to have a general idea as to their contents, the subject matter covered by the Grandhas are given below.

01	Reconstruction of Temples	1525-1545 damaged
02	Construction of Elankunnapuzha Temple	1532-1795
03	Devaswom affairs	1561-1711
04	Matters relating to Thirumala Devaswom	1567
05	Documents relating to Thiruvanchikulam Devaswom	1781-1785
06	Details of certain functions in the Elankunnapuzha and Koodal Manickam Temple	1783-1823
07	Construction of Tiruvilwamala Temple	1885 A.D

ACCOUNTS

01	DOCUMENTS OF Malvaram Account	1561-1728
02	Accounts relating to Chelakkara Proverthy	1594-1733
03	Verumpatam Nilams	1662-1683
04	Accounts of Thalappilly and Chittoor Taluks	1665-1711
05	Devaswom Accounts	1676
06	Accounts of Paravoor and Cherikkal Proverthis	1690-1693
07	Financial statement and Accounts	1783-1795
08	Miscellaneous Accounts	1806-1813

TREATIES

01	Treaty between Dutch and Cochin	1662-1797
02	Treaty between Dutch and Cochin	1663
03	Treaty between Dutch and Cochin	1708-1772
04	Treaty between Travancore and Cochin	1717-1806
05	Treaties between Thrippadapuswaroopam and Perumpadappu	1823 A.D

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IV. RARE RECORDS

1. RECORDS IN PORTUGUESE (1701-1815 A.D.)

Regional Archives Ernakulam holds some Portuguese and Dutch letters (Original). The content of these letters are not known, as they are yet to be translated.

RECORDS IN PERSIAN

The collection of Persian records consists of letter written by the Raja of Cochin to the British Residents and the Governors. These records relate to various subjects. English translation of some records are also available here.

2. COPPER PLATE RECORDS (1567-1675)A.D

Copper plates are historic documents, the text of which is inscribed on sheets of copper of varying sizes. It is an ancient devise adopted for the creation of records of a permanent nature.

The collection of copper plate records preserved in the Regional Archives, Ernakulam now consists of 13 items. The most important of which is a treaty entered into between the Raja of Cochin and the Dutch East India Company dated 22nd March 1663 A.D. It is written in Vattezhuthu character and consists of 5 plates and were deciphered. It has been with translation published in the Travancore Archaeological series part IV in 1910 A.D.

The other set of 6 small size copper plates contain a brief history of the Cochin Royal family. There is also a plate containing a theetturam granted to the Konkani Mahajanam in the year 1567

Yet another plate written in Kannada & Devanagiri script containing origin of *kasi Mutt Samsthan* was deciphered and an introduction to it was written by Shri. M.Purushothama Mallaya in 1991 A.D. Malayalam version of all these plates are also available.

BAMBOO SPLINT RECORDS (1630-1690) A.D

Inscription on bamboo splints are peculiar types of records. They are very rare and unique types of records peculiar to Kerala.

The collection of 19 bamboo splint records written in Malayalam are preserved here. These records mostly consist of certain private documents such as lease deeds, Mortgage deeds etc. Some important among them are mentioned below.

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1. A document executed in favour of the Naduvil Mattom, Trichur for a loan of Rs. 400/-
2. A document executed in favour of Naduvil Mattom, Trichur regarding the loan of paddy.
3. A documents regarding Ernattukar Puttanur Temple and Keez Temples.
4. A document executed in favour of Kalappuram Raman for a loan of Rs. 751.
5. A document regarding the property of Naduvil Mattom.

V. PRIVATE RECORDS

1. PALIAM RECORDS (1806-1950 A.D)

Paliam was the Royal family of Cochin. Senior members of the Paliam family (Paliath Achans) were the hereditary Prime Ministers or Commanders-in-Chief of the Rulers of Cochin for about a century. But they lost their position after one of the Valiya Achans (who joined with Velu Thampi to kill the British Resident Col. Macaulay) was exiled to Madras in 1809.

The Regional Archives Ernakulam holds a collection of records consisting of correspondence among Paliath Achan, Cochin and British Government. These records which throw light on various matters of interest such as political, and administrative. Records relating to the maintenance of Paliam family Estate are also available.

The following records are included in this group.

1. English copy of letter from the Resident to Paliath Achan states that the Resident is aware of the regret of Achan for his collaboration with the Travancore Dewan.
2. Letter to Paliath Achan from Velu Thampi Dalawa's *Kariastha.*
3. Copy of the undertaking given by Paliath Achan to Col. Macaulay Resident breaking off his alliance with the Dewan of Travancore agreeing to allow the British army to pass through the State and to supply them with the provisions and requesting for sufficient safeguards regarding himself and the Rajah after getting the orders of the British Government.
4. Paliam Estate Management taking charge of File No. C-2864/09.
5. Allotment of Paliam landed among the Paliam members approved of (pe1/50)
6. Last words of Paliam family by the Valia Achan.
7. A petition from Paliath Achan (staying in Madras to the Governor General-

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in-Council,.Fort St. George for re-instatement as Prime Minister of Cochin.

8. A letter from Achan to Col. Macaulay intimating that he has reannounced his alliance with the Travancore Dewan and would abide by the companies direction also seeks assurance regarding the safety of the Raja, Kingdom and himself.
9. Letters from Paliath Govindan Achan from Bombay, Madras and Cochin to the Cheria Achan, Kittu Menon & company dealing with different domestic matters.
10. Copy of a petition dated 22.3.1820 from Paliath Achan Madras to major S.Mac Donalds Resident for Travancore & Cochin.
11. Letter from Col. Macaulay to Paliath Achan regarding the management of the properties of the Paliam by the agents of the Cochin Rajah and preparations of a list of assets and liabilities for submission to Government.
12. Draft on a petition from Paliath Kochunny Achan to Col. Morrison, Resident of Travancore requesting permission to proceed to Madras to see his father in-law Paliath Achan at Madras.
13. Draft of letter from Paliath Raman Govindan Achan to Col. Macaulay stating that he has reannounced with Travancore Dewan and promising to abide by company's wishes to undertake the supply provisions and men to company's army and requesting guarantees regarding safety of the Raja, Kingdom and himself.
14. Copy of petition from Paliath Achan to Madras Governor, Sir Thomas Munro requesting permission to proceed to Cochin.
15. Copy of petition dated 10th May 1814 to the Governor General in council from Paliath Achan complaining about not being put in possession of certain family property rights for sale of tobacco, boats etc.
16. Copy of letter from Paliath Achan Bombay stating that he is residing there as per orders of Col.Macaulay and that he cannot leavee the palace without sanction and that His Highness's affairs can prosper only through the intervention of the Madras Government and that he could do little in the matter.
17. A slip from H.H to Achan to send Rs. 300/- to redeem a pledged Article.
18. Letter from H.H to Paliath Achan expressing surprise and regret at Achan's delay in appearing before H.H at this critical juncture and requesting him to meet H.H
19. Letter from H.H to Paliath Achan requesting to help to conduct the Pindom of ceremony of the mother of a dependant Moothathu on 7th Thulam.

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20. Letter from Dasan Menon to Paliath Achan intimating that the Achan as well H.H may meet the colonel in the Fort at Cochin.

2. I.N.MENON COLLECTION

Records of Abdicated Raja of Cochin (1895-1914).

From 1895 to 1914 the erstwhile princely state of Cochin was governed by H.H Sir Rama Varma, G.C.S.I, G.C.I.E popularly known as the abdicated Raja or Rajarshi of Cochin. He introduced many important reforms throughout the State. When he ascended the throne in 1895 Cochin was a third rate medieval principality under the control of Madras Government. When H.H relinquished the office by the end of 1914, Cochin had become a progressive modern State with a definite and honoured place in the map of India, free from the control of the paramount power. The voluntary relinquishment of the 'Musnad' by a native Raja was a unique event in the history of Cochin and there were speculations that led to the abdication. He abdicated the throne in 1914.

The collection of personal records throw light on various matters including abdication. These records were originally possessed by the Raja, then it came to the possession of his son the late Shri.I.N.Menon, in the year 1971, Mrs. I.N. Menon handed over the entire valuable records to the state Archives which now forms the significant item among private collection. The details of records in this group is given below.

01. Autobiographical notes of Raja Sir Rama Varma, written in his own hand.
02. Diaries of the Maharaja (1897 to 1914 A.D).
03. Correspondence between the Raja and the British Residents, Governors, Viceroys etc.(1895-914)
04. Correspondence between the Raja and the successive Dewans. (1906-1914).
05. 'Strictly Confidential' personal representation.
06. Rules for the conduct of *"Smartha Vijarana'*
07. Important reform schemes of His Highness (Chapters I to XXX)
08. Papers relating to abdication.
09. 'Rajarshi of Cochin' Typescript copy of a memoir written by the son of the abdicated Maharaja, late Shri. I.N. Menon.

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APPENDIX I

LIST OF THE RULERS OF COCHIN FROM 1500 ONWARDS

Sl.No.	Name	Period of Administration
01	Unni Rama Koil I	1500
02	Unni Rama Koil II	1503-1565
03	Vira Kerala Varma	1537-1565
04	Kesava Rama Varma	1565-1601
05	Vira Kerala Varma	1601-1615
06	Ravi Varma	1615-1624
07	Vira Kerala Varma	1624-1637
08	Goda Varma	1637-1645
09	Vira Rayira Varma	1645-1646
10	Vira Kerala Varma	1646-1650
11	Rama Varma	1650-1656
12	Rani Gangathara Lakshmi (Acted as regent of Cochin)	1656-1658
13	Rama Varma	1656-1662
14	Goda Varma	1662
15	Vira Kerala Varma	1663-1687
16	Rama Varma	1687-1693
17	Ravi Varma	1693-1697
18	Rama Varma	1697-1701
19	Rama Varma	1701-1721
20	Ravi Varma	1721-1731
21	Rama Varma	1731-1746
22	Kerala Varma	1746-1749
23	Rama Varma	1749-1760
24	Kerala Varma Rama Varma	1760-1775
25	Rama Varma	1775-1790
26	Rama Varma(Sakthan Thampuran)	1790-1805

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LIST OF RULERS OF COCHIN FROM 1805 TO 1964

Name	Place of Death	Period of Administration
01.Rama Varma	Vellarappilly	
02.Kerala Varma	Tripunithura	
03.Rama Varma	Tripunithura	
04.Rama Varma 05.Rama Varma	Irinjalakuda Trichur	
06.Kerala Varma	Benares	
07.Ravi Varma	Thripunithura	
08.Rama Varma 09.Kerala Varma	Thripunithura Tripunithura	
10.Rama Varma	Trichur	
11.Rama Varma	Madras	
12.Rama Varma	Chowara	
13.Kerala Varma	Tripunithura	
14.Ravi Varma	Tripunithura	
15.Kerala Varma	Ernakulam	
16.Rama Varma	Tripunithura	

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APPENDIX II

Sl.No.	Name of Dewan	Period of Administration
01	Col.Munro	1812-1818
02	Nanjappayya	1818-1825
03	Seshagiri Rao	1825-1830
04	Sankara Menon	1830-1835
05	Venkatasubhayya	1835-1840
06	Sankaran warrier	1840-1856
07	Venkata Rao	1856-1860
08	Thottakkat Sankunni Menon	1860-1879
09	Govinda Menon	1879-1889
10	C.Thiruvenkatacharya	1889-1892
11	V. Subramania Pillai	1892-1896
12	P.Rajagopalachari	1896-1901
13	S.Locke	Aug.1901-Sept.1902 March to May 1907
14	N.Pattabhirama Rao	(Sept.1902-March 1907)
15	A.R.Banerjee	1907-1914
16	J.W.Banerjee	1914-1919
17	T.Vijayaraghavachari	1919-1922
18	P.Narayana Menon	1922-1925
19	P.S.Narayana Iyer	1925-1930
20	C.G.Herbert	1930-1935
21	R.K. Shanmughom Chetti	March 1935-June a941
22	Komattil Achuta Menon	June 1941-Oct.1941
23	A.F.W.Dixon	Oct 1941-Nov 1943
24	George Boag	Nov.1943-Aug.1944
25	C.P. Karunakara Menon	1944-1948

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APPENDIX III

A Note on the Eras

MALAYALAM (KOLLAM) ERA AND PUTUVAIPPU ERA

(Note- A major portion of the records pertaining to the earlier period are dated in Malayalam (M.E). There are also a few records which are dated in Putuvaippu Era (P.E.) A brief description of these Eras which are peculiar to Kerala is given below.)

<u>Malayalam Era (M.E.)</u>

The following is a popular verse in Malayalam:

"കൊല്ലത്തിൽ തരളാംഗത്തെ
കൂട്ടുകിൽ കലിവൽസരം
കൊല്ലത്തിൽ ശരജം കൂട്ടി
ക്രിസ്താബ്ദം കണ്ടുകൊള്ളണം."

This means, if 3926 is added to the number that denote a year of Malayalam Era we get the corresponding year of the Kalliyuga. Similarly, by adding 825 (actually 824-25) to the M.E. we get the corresponding year of Christian Era.

Putuvaippu Era

"Putuvaippu" means the new deposit. The island of Vypin, from which the Era takes its name, lies between the backwaters on the east and the Arabian Sea on the west and the Cranganore and Cochin bars on the north and south. The island has been formed by the deposit of silt brought down by the river that discharges its waters into the backwaters and the sea. The date of its appearance or more probably of the peopling of the place as mentioned in the old Cochin deeds, which are aften dated in the Putuvaippu Era corresponds, with the year 1341 A...D. (516 M.E.)

(Source: Introduction to a "Translation of Record Granthavari in the State Archives)

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GLOSSARY

1.	Adalam Ayakkettu	An account showing the total revenue due from a proverthy.
2.	Aivancheri Thamprakkal	The highest Brahman dignity in Malabar
3.	Anamatt Accounts	Unappropriated items of account.
4.	Anubhoga Viruthi	Gifts made by rulers or Chiefs to their dependents
5.	Anubhogam	Service grant or grant of
6.	Ayakkettu	A sum total of the accounts.
7.	Ayyakket	The old land revenue records.
8.	Cadjan Grandha	A collection of palm leaf manuscripts preserved within wooden flaps
9.	Cadjan	The dried leaf of the Palmyrah and talipoot tree
10.	Chaliyur House	A branch of the Cochin Royal family
11.	Changatham	A fee levied in ancient items by the State for providing individual protection to the person and property of the subjects.
12.	Charthu	A memo or note generally written on a Cadjan slip setting for the time and manner of conducting ceremonies.
13.	Chempakaraman	An old title and dignity
14.	Chempakasseri	The old name of Ambalapuzha
15.	Cherikkal	Government Land exempt from assessment.
16.	Cherikkals	Lands on the summit and slopes of hills cleared for purposes of cultivation.
17.	Cheris	Villages
18.	Chowkidar	A customs-house officer.
19.	Chowky	A watch house or guard house
20.	Churuna	Rolls of palm leaf Manuscripts
21.	Cotwal	A superintendent of bazaars, in former times invested with Police authority in certain matters.
22.	Cutcherry	The place where office business is transacted.

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23.	Dalawa	A title used in the 18^{th} century to designate the head of the administration, corresponding to the Dean of the present day.
24.	Desabhogam	A certain sum of money due from the tenants of desom to the ruler.
25.	Devaswom Thirattu	An abstract or sum total of accounts
26.	Elaya Raja	The heir-apparent
27.	Elaya Thampuran	Junior prince
28.	Fouzdar	An officer in former days in the Palace, whose duty was to sign death warrants on behalf of the sovereign.
29.	Grandha	Alphabet, old Cadjan manuscripts, also a verse of 32 letters.
30.	Grandhavari	Chronicle
31.	Grandhavari	Old chronicles and accounts in Cadjan preserved in houses, palaces, or temples from the old.
32.	Hukkumnahas	Written orders issued by H.H
33.	Huzur Cutcherry	Secretariat
34.	Huzur Cutcherry	The Dewan's office; the public offices.
35.	Jamabandi	Revenue
36.	Jenmam	The right of proprietorship which the owner has over his property. It literally means 'Birth right'
37.	Jenmi	A land lord who holds land in absolute freehold and not liable normally to payment of tax to the Government.
38.	Jenmikharan	Certain dues to be given by the tenant to the Jenmi.
39.	Jenmikkaran Kovilakam	Palace
40.	Kanakkupillamar	Accountants.
41.	Kanam	A form of tenure partaking of the nature both of a mortgage and lease.
42.	Kanappattom	A kind of tenure.
43.	Kandezhuthu	Settlement

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44.	Khajana	Treasury
45.	Kharitha	A royal letter or a letter from the representative of the king.
46.	Kharitu	Theetturam, confidential Royal writ
47.	Kittivaravu	Reception cash
48.	Kudiyan	A tenant who holds land either from the Sirkar or from a Jenmi
49.	Kututal Kuravu	An estimate of the enhancement of decrease of revenue due to a new settlement, or renewal of grants.
50.	Kycheets	Written undertakings
51.	Madampimar	Nayar chieftains of Travancore in early days.
52.	Malavaka	Forest
53.	Malikhana	An allowance of money given to some aristocratic families by the British Government.
54.	Mandappathum Vathukkal	The old name for Taluk. It literally means the doorway of God's mandapam.
55.	Maramath	Public works
56.	Mathilakam	The Sri Padmanabha Swami Temple.
57.	Muri	Subdivision of a proverthy
58.	Nadu	A territorial unit
59.	Nalvaly	Daily accounts
60.	Nediyiruppu Swarupam	The Zamorin
61.	Neettu	Royal decree Writ or commission
62.	Nithyachilavu	An account of routine expenses.
63.	Nithyavilavu	An officer to manage the routine expense of H.H.
64.	Otti	Mortgage
65.	Ozhukus	An account of the boundaries of lands fixed after the survey.
66.	Paimash	Settlement
67.	Paljetter	Paliath Achan (Dutch usage)
68.	Palliaramuthalpidi	Private estate of H.H the Raja.

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69.	Pandikasala	Warehouse
70.	Pathacca	A Roman Coin
71.	Pathivu	A system of budget fixing the allotment for the State Expenditure
72.	Pathivu	An account of fixed items of expenditure.
73.	Pathrakalavara	A store house of Sirkar Utensils
74.	Patinettarayalam	18 half village
75.	Pattom	A Lease.
76.	Perumpadappu swarupam	The Cochin Royal family
77.	Polichezhuthu	Renewals.
78.	Proverthis	A revenue sub division of the country.
79.	Puthen	Coin of Cochin State
80.	Rahadari	Collection of duties on roads passport specifying that duties are paid.
81.	Rajabhogam	Royalty; a light by the Government on lands held on certain tenures.
82.	Rakshabhogam	Grants of lands to individuals for affording safety in times of danger.
83.	Rayasom Pillai	A ministerial officer; a clerk
84.	Rayasom	Secretariat
85.	Sakharipu	H.H's private treasury
86.	Samprathi	Chief Accountant in former days/
87.	Samprati	Public Account
88.	Sannad	A document of agreement.
89.	Sarvadhikaryakar	Chief Officer in H.H's palace
90.	Seshakkaran	A junior member in a maramakkathayam family
91.	Sirastadar	Head Officer
92.	Smartha Vicharam	The institution of inquiring into moral offences prevalent among the Namboodiris conducted by a smartha or person versed in the Smrithis.

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93.	Smarthas	A section of the Brahman's who follow the doctrine of Advaitha; also one versed in the Smrithis or Dharma Sasthras of the Hindu.
94.	Sri.Pandaravaka	Property belonging to Sri. Padmanabha temple
95.	Sthanam	Dignity
96.	Taluk	An Administrative subdivision of a Division under a Tahsildar.
97.	Theetturam	A Royal writ
98.	Thiruveluthu	A letter from the Maharaja.
99.	Tirattu	Abstract of account
100.	Tiruvullam	Kings' pleasure
101.	Trippappi Swarupam	The Travancore Royal family
102.	Trittalicharthu	A fictitious marriage ceremony on the Ceremony on occasion of female
103.	Uranmar	Lands subject to the control of village associations as opposed to Karanmar or freeholds directly under the control of the State. Uralar Owners or trustees of private temples.
104.	Valiya meleluthu	The old name for the head of the Finance and accounts department.
105.	Valiya Sarvadhikaryakkar	Chief Minister
106.	Valiyasekharippu	The Raja's private Treasury
107.	Vallanchathanur Cherrikal	Government land exempted for assessment orders appropriated for the support of the Rajas or Religious institutions.
108.	Variolas	Memoranda
109.	Verum pattom	Simple lease
110.	Vicharippukar	Manager
111.	Vilangipper	An account prepared after periodical checking of the Individual war list.
112.	Vivarapper	Individual war statement of the revenue dues prepared for collection purpose.
113.	Yadest	Memorandum
114.	Zilla court	Old name for District and Sessions court.

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